Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-92-113
Thursday
11 June 1992

Daily Report
Latin America

FBIS-LAT-92-113 *11 June 1992*

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

NOTICE TO READERS CONCERNING EARTH SUMMIT: Reportage on the UN Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro will be published in special Latin America DAILY REPORT supplements.

FRONT PAGE

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Central American Presidents Send Letter to Bush *[Managua LA PRENSA 6 Jun]* 2

CARIBBEAN

Cuba

U.S. Trying To 'Recolonize' Third World *[Havana Radio]* 3
Ecumenical Council Member Protests U.S. Embargo *[Havana Radio]* 3
Commentary on U.S. Isolation at Rio Summit *[Havana Radio]* 3
Commentators Note U.S. Economic Difficulties *[Havana Radio]* 4
Agreements With Former Soviet Republics Viewed *[Havana Radio]* 5
Fernandez Returns From Trip to Spain, Comments *[Havana TV]* 5
Comments on Castro Visiting Spain *[Havana Radio]* 5
Spanish Commercial Delegation Wants Closer Ties *[Havana Radio]* 5
Energy Savings Reported in Agricultural Transport *[Havana Radio]* 6
Recycling Contributes to Electricity Savings *[Havana Radio]* 6
Conference on Biotechnology Opens 8 Jun *[Havana Radio]* 6
CETSS Approves Social Security Increases *[Havana Radio]* 7
* Workers Return to Construction Projects *[GRANMA 27 May]* 7

Haiti

Lower Chamber Ratifies Bazin as Prime Minister *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 7
Debate Called 'Very Stormy' *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 7
Socialist Last-Minute Support *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 8
Bazin, Leaders May Meet in Dominican Republic *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 8
Confrontation With Zenglendos Leaves 6 Dead *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 8
Authorities Release Priest in Les Cayes *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 8

MEXICO

* Chiapas Politico-Religious Disputes Discussed 9
* Complexities Cited *[PROCESO 20 Apr]* 9
* Debate on Legislation *[PROCESO 27 Apr]* 11
* INI Officials Arrested *[PROCESO 20 Apr]* 14

CENTRAL AMERICA

Nicaragua

H. Ortega on Obstacle to Aid, Army-Party Link *[Managua Radio]* 16
PLI Head Rejects Presidency Minister Statement *[Managua Radio]* 16

Panama

Chevalier Statement on Unrest, Bush Visit *[Panama City TV]* 17
City Mayor Issues Communique on Bush Visit *[LA PRENSA 10 Jun]* 18
U.S. Soldiers Shot; 1 Dead, 1 Wounded *[Panama City TV]* 18
Police Chief on Attack *[Panama City TV]* 18
Police Communique *[Panama City TV]* 19
Second Soldier Dies *[ACAN]* 19
Students Bush Visit Protest, Violence Reported 19
Soldiers' Car Burned *[Panama City TV]* 19
Protest Bush Arrival *[Panama City Radio]* 19
High Schools To Close *[Panama City Radio]* 19
Police Clash With Workers, Casualty Leaders *[Panama City Radio]* 20
Police Detect 19 Drug Gangs Operating in Country *[LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 8 Jun]* ... 20

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

Russian Military Know-How 'for Peaceful Purposes' *[Madrid EFE]* 21
Thatcher Upcoming Falklands' Visit Downplayed *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 21
• Cavallo's Response to Political Rivals Analyzed *[LA PRENSA 3 May]* 21
• UCR Leaders Denounce Government Corruption *[CLARIN 15 May]* 23

Colombia

British Prime Minister Arrives, Comments *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* 23
Major, Gaviria Sign Communique *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* 24
Terrorists Bomb Spanish Consulate in Barranquilla *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* 24
Group Claims Responsibility *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* 24
ELN Declares 'Total War' Against Government *[Madrid EFE]* 25
Dynamites Pipelines *[AFP]* 25
Officials Comment *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* 26
Telecom Says Government Fails To Keep Agreement *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* 26
• Coffee Growers Seek To Diversify Operations *[EL TIEMPO 12 May]* 26

Peru

Armed Forces Arrest MRTA Leader Victor Polay *[Lima TV]* 27
Economy Minister Says IDB Freeze Lifted *[Lima Radio]* 27
• Presidential Adviser Causes 'Split' in Military *[CARETAS 11 May]* 28

Panama

Government and Justice Minister Chevalier made a statement carried by Panama City TV in which he addressed the demonstrations and President Bush's visit. There are some groups, he said, that think democratic tolerance "is a sign of the government's weakness. I want to tell them not to be deceived." "President Endara's government will not allow disorderliness in the country. We will respect every person's rights—but we will demand that everyone respect other people's rights—and we will enforce the law, in the strictest way possible, against those who take part in disorderliness and demonstrate in an uncivilized way." he says, "I want to invite all the people to go out on 10 June and participate in the events welcoming President Bush. The Panamanian people really have nothing against President Bush. The majority of Panamanians do not support the street troublemakers. I invite the people to go out on the streets and give the troublemakers a slap in the face." Chevalier says, "I want to tell you the government will fully protect all those who go out with President Endara to meet, greet, and welcome the U.S. President." LA PRENSA reports that a communique from the mayor of Panama City reaffirms the constitutional right of the people to demonstrate peacefully.

Meanwhile, two U.S. soldiers were shot just a few hours before President Bush was scheduled to arrive, Panama City TV reports. ACAN reports that both soldiers died.

Panama City TV reports on student demonstrations in which streets are being blocked. Riot police clashed with workers and leaders of the Association of Relatives of Invasion Casualties, Panama City radio reports.

Haiti

Port-au-Prince radio announces that the new prime minister is Marc Bazin, who was ratified by the Chamber of Deputies. The debate on the ratification was called "very stormy," but was accomplished with the "last-minute support of the parliamentary socialist bloc."

Port-au-Prince radio also notes that a meeting "seems to be scheduled" for Haitian political leaders to confer in the Dominican Republic next week on the political crisis. The meeting is slated to include Bazin, parliamentarians, and other political leaders. The attendance of ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide is "under consideration."

Colombia

British Prime Minister John Major arrived, Santa Fe de Bogota TV reports, and was welcomed by President Gaviria. Gaviria's goals were to establish bilateral trade and cooperation against drug trafficking with the UK. A later TV report says that Major and Gaviria signed a joint communique "briefly referring to the political situation in Latin America, including the drug trafficking issue," and indicates "the two countries will examine the feasibility of sponsoring trade relations." Major also inspected the Cusiana 2 oil fields, "the most important oil discovery in 25 years" for the English.

According to AFP, leftist guerrillas, taking advantage of Major's visit, dynamited two oil pipelines. Santa Fe de Bogota TV reports the "Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia Jose Antequera Front has claimed responsibility for the attack." Meanwhile, the ELN has announced a "total war" against the government's economic policy and threatened to attack national institutions, multinational corporations, and the media, according to EFE. The threats were made by the ELN delegates to the peace talks between the Colombian Government and the CNGSB in Mexico.

Central American Presidents Send Letter to Bush

PA0906235992 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 6 Jun 92 p 27

["Text" of letter sent to U.S. President George Bush by the Central American Presidents attending the 12th Central American Presidential Summit in Nicaragua on 4 June]

[Text] Respected President and friend,

In our meetings, the Central American presidents have always stressed that international cooperation is essential for the consolidation of peace and democracy in the region. We are convinced that the furtherance of peace is as important a phase for our people as the end of the war and the establishment of a democratic order.

In the new era in Central America, cooperation continues to be, even more than before, essential to maintain and further the progress made in our democratic institutions after many decades of war and instability.

Your government has not only demonstrated that it agrees with this principle, but has carried out specific measures of great value in the sphere of cooperation, in order to sustain the consolidation of this new era in democratic Central America.

It is with deep concern that we have learned the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee is considering a motion to withhold the financial assistance already approved for Nicaragua, a country that more than ever needs that cooperation to further the progress it has made with enormous sacrifice and with the financial assistance of the United States.

To illustrate the importance we attach to this issue, we hereby request your mediation in the U.S. Senate; that you make a personal drive for rejection of the proposal, thereby preventing the withholding of aid to Nicaragua.

Your Excellency, George Bush, President of the United States of America:

We must also stress that delaying the disbursement of foreign resources already pledged to Nicaragua will endanger the significant progress made in the country's economic stabilization and democratization process. It would mean a step backward and could have serious consequences on the political, economic and social order, not only in Nicaragua but in the entire Central American region.

Accept, Esteemed President, our highest regards.

[Signed] Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier, president; Alfredo Cristiani Burkard, president; Jorge Antonio Serrano Elias, president; Rafael L. Callejas, president; Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, president; Guillermo Endara Galimany, president; George Price, prime minister of Belize.

Cuba

U.S. Trying To 'Recolonize' Third World

FL1006213992 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1932 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Today in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Cuban Vice Minister of Foreign Relations Ricardo Alarcon accused the United States of trying to recolonize the Third World making use of resources that belong to poor countries. In an interview with PRENSA LATINA, Alarcon censured the U.S. position, which opposes the signing of the Biodiversity Treaty that already has the support of almost all the nations represented at the UN Conference on Environment and Development, Eco 92, which is being held in Rio.

Alarcon, who is also Cuban ambassador to the United Nations, pointed out that Washington wishes to monopolize the United Nations to maintain property rights over the contributions of the human intellect, obtain profits for the big multinational companies, and control the way the Third World develops. After depicting Washington as the obstacle to Eco 92, ever since the preparatory meetings, Alarcon noted that the Earth has put up with the capitalist countries long enough.

During the interview he granted PRENSA LATINA in Rio de Janeiro, Alarcon said once again that it is necessary to modify international economic relations to reach profound solutions regarding the subjects under discussion. He said that independently of the texts that may be approved there, the most important thing about Eco 92 will be that it is the beginning of a new stage (?involving) a popular presence, which the conference is given by the fact that it is attended by entities and people from all over the world who have gone to Rio to set forth their opinions.

Alarcon mentioned U.S. President George Bush's isolation, not only within the forum but also in his own country. Alarcon also made reference to the [word indistinct] of the people of the United States, who are seeing today in their homeland, destroyed forests, cities with polluted air, and great difficulties in the health care and educational systems, while Bush favors the millionaires in order to secure his electoral campaign.

Ecumenical Council Member Protests U.S. Embargo

FL0506011392 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] The Reverend Raul Suarez Ramos, a member of the Cuban Ecumenical Council, asserted today in Rome that the U.S. embargo against Cuba is unjust. He stated this at a joint news conference he held with Cuban writer and journalist Nicanor Leon Cotayo. Suarez Ramos and Leon Cotayo will participate with Italian parliamentary, political, and cultural figures in a forum on the future of Cuba, which is to begin tomorrow and will be held at the offices of the Rome provincial government.

At the news conference, the two Cubans denounced the serious harm caused to the Cuban people by the embargo which began more than 30 years ago. Cuban Ambassador to Italy Javier Ardizones also participated in the news conference, which was held at the foreign press association office in Rome. The ambassador mentioned the status of bilateral relations and stated that there is a mutual desire to progress along a positive path.

Commentary on U.S. Isolation at Rio Summit

PA1006225992 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0100 GMT 10 Jun 92

["Our America" commentary by Ignacio Canel]

[Text] The UN Conference on Environment and Development, which is taking place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, entered its last week of sessions. The gap between rich and poor countries and the reactionary U.S. positions—which have already been strongly rejected—have become increasingly evident during this summit.

Many analysts think the hopes of the peoples of poor countries are on the verge of collapsing because the United States is refusing to cooperate. Given the high indebtedness and economic crisis facing underdeveloped nations and the lack of resources to eliminate poverty and protect man's surroundings, one of the issues most expected to be solved during the so-called Earth Summit was the UN proposal to target 0.7 percent of the GDP [gross domestic product] of industrialized countries to help the poorest ones.

According to the United Nations, a project to tackle the main environmental dangers, which include overpopulation, poverty, and a lack of sanitary infrastructures, especially in Third World countries, would cost about $600 billion each year. Industrialized nations would cover $125 billion of the cost.

It is worth pointing out that this money would come in the form of aid to underdeveloped countries to implement projects such as those mentioned. However, William Reilly, director of the Environmental Protection Agency and deputy chief of the U.S. delegation to Eco '92, said his government will grant no new financing for environmental programs over the $750 million ceiling. U.S. President George Bush had said previously that he will not grant blank checks to the countries that need aid the most in order to improve their ecological surroundings.

It is evident that the United States is being increasingly isolated, not only for maintaining an unpopular position, but for maintaining a position that is harmful to the health of U.S. inhabitants. The repeated U.S. refusal to sign the convention on biological diversity places the U.S. representation in a delicate position at the Rio de Janeiro conference. However, this attitude was repeated regarding a project to substantially reduce the toxic discharges of large industrial consortiums. These toxic

discharges, along with petroleum, coal, and vehicle discharges, are major causes of environmental contamination.

The United States rejected both of these projects. It is now also refusing to help finance plans to protect the environment. The U.S. Government does not seem to realize that all countries have equal chances of becoming contaminated. However, the poor countries and their natural resources, which must be protected, need financial aid more than rich countries do. They also need predators and contaminators to stop extracting resources abusively and damaging the environment.

Meanwhile, the absurd and reactionary U.S. positions have met with the most vigorous rejection of Brazilian unions and ecological organizations, which expect to welcome President Bush on 12 June with a large demonstration. This is on top of the criticism that the U.S. attitude has drawn from the delegations attending the UN conference in Rio de Janeiro.

Commentators Note U.S. Economic Difficulties

PA1006191292 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Jun 92

["Commentary on the News" segment featuring Galeano and Arnaldo Hernandez Romeu]

[Text] [Galeano] The topic we are going to discuss has been in the news recently. As a result of the unipolar system that exists in the world, many people have forgotten the serious domestic problems of the U.S. economy. The United States is now proclaiming itself master of the world. However, the United States, the George Bush administration, and the U.S. economy are facing difficult domestic problems. That is the topic Arnaldo will discuss; namely, the domestic economy of the United States, inflation, etc. Good evening, Arnaldo.

[Hernandez] Good evening to you, my colleagues, and to Radio Havana Cuba's large family of listeners.

[Galeano] In sum, nothing is working in the empire.

[Hernandez] You mentioned the topic we will touch on briefly because we do not have a lot of time. On the morning of 9 June, the U.S. House of Representatives began to debate a constitutional amendment proposed by President Bush to eliminate the fiscal deficit, which is huge. To give you an idea, the fiscal deficit is expected to rise to $400 billion at the end of the year. That figure is the same as Latin America's entire foreign debt, which is definitely a considerable sum. If we were to compare disasters, one can compare the disaster of the Latin American debt, which is huge, with the U.S. budget deficit.

Last week, President Bush called on lawmakers in the House of Representatives and the Senate, Democrats and Republicans alike, to set aside partisan considerations and balance the country's finances. That is a very difficult task because it is an election year. It is highly unlikely that representatives from the two parties vying for the U.S. presidency will forget, as you said ....

[Galeano, interrupting] Those political differences and devote their time to working on the country's finances or balancing the budget.

[Hernandez] Certainly. Each party will want to be the one to solve the country's problems or to be working on a solution from its own perspective.

[Galeano] Each one wants to come before its electorate as the one who solved the problem.

[Hernandez] As the one who solved the problem. A two-third vote is necessary in both houses to approve a constitutional amendment. That is why I am telling you I feel pessimistic about it. It is worth nothing: A pessimist is a well-informed optimist. [Galeano chuckles.]

[Hernandez] That is how I see the situation in that country. At any rate, we could say that the country experienced an economic recovery during the Reagan-Bush administration. I would say the United States experienced a contained depression throughout the 1970's, which was hidden in the 1980's by some economic gains. During the Reagan years, the economy grew an average of 2.7 percent. However, there were many other problems. Many indicators did not show these encouraging or positive signals. Savings levels dropped considerably in the Reagan era. Public and private debts grew. Productivity levels and real wages were stagnant. Something important happened, which the U.S. public felt keenly: The loss of the U.S. competitive edge grew in the face of its European rivals and, basically, Japan.

[Galeano] It even had to adopt protectionist measures against Japanese textiles and cars because they were competing favorably on the U.S. domestic market.

[Hernandez] They were competing favorably. In addition, the gap between rich and poor grew. That is why I am telling you, Galeano, this year should close with a modest or slight economic recovery in the United States, but I think it will come late and will not influence the election results. This slight economic recovery, which should be felt at the end of 1992, will not help Bush's reelection bid.

[Galeano] His bid to be reelected president. We do not have much time, but I think there is another matter that is not helping bring stability to the U.S. domestic economy, and I do not know if you agree with me on this. The United States has made a number of pledges to its new Eastern European friends. It has pledged to give them economic aid, and that could have some influence. Although the United States has not fully kept its aid pledges, it still has to give something to those new friends in Eastern Europe.

[Hernandez] Those friends have been kept waiting because the aid has been below expectations.

[Galeano] That is why I mentioned it. Even if the U.S. aid to Eastern Europe is small, it will have an impact on the general balance of the domestic economy. I think we must keep that in mind to realize that the future will not be easy for the U.S. domestic economy, and it will not be easy for Bush. Thank you, Arnaldo.

[Hernandez] Thank you for allowing me to reach Radio Havana Cuba listeners.

[Galeano] You are always welcome to participate

Agreements With Former Soviet Republics Viewed

PA1006151592 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Under the new circumstances and systems of bilateral exchange, Cuba and the republics of the former Soviet Union are signing cooperation and trade agreements that in some way continue the ties that existed for 30 years, Cuban Foreign Trade Ministry sources stated in Havana. They added that the country has signed sugar and oil agreements with Russia and Kazakhstan for the first half of this year, as well as agreements for the exchange of sugar and foodstuffs with Belarus and Latvia. It was also reported that Cuba, Russia, and other republics are making progress in developing joint enterprises and are resuming citrus exports to the former Soviet territories.

Fernandez Returns From Trip to Spain, Comments

FL0906231092 Havana Cuba Vision Network in Spanish 2220 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Vice President of the Council of Ministers Jose Ramon Fernandez has called his recently concluded tour of the Spanish Provinces of Galicia and Asturias very productive and cordial. In a meeting with the press today in Havana, Fernandez referred to the numerous signs of friendship and solidarity offered by high level political and government figures in those regions as well as by the people in general.

[Begin Fernandez recording] They were really much more than what one would have expected, if one had not seen them there, with their slogans, expressions, enthusiasm, and firmness. [end recording]

The Cuban vice president also stressed the extensive press coverage of this trip and the truth and objectivity of all the reports that were made. He also referred to the tour he had made to areas of economic interest and the meetings he had held with Asturian and Galician businessmen who are interested in trade relations with Cuba.

Comments on Castro Visiting Spain

FL1006004492 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The possible visit of our commander in chief to Spain was a point of interest in the meetings Fernandez had with the Spanish press.

[Begin Fernandez recording] The question asked most throughout my visit was: Is Fidel coming to Spain? Will Fidel come here? Many reporters asked me what I would recommend, whether my opinion was favorable toward Fidel going there or not. In every case, I answered that Comrade Fidel's intention was to go to the summit and that naturally this depended on the situation or work problems which could arise. If he attends the summit, I believe that the chances are excellent that he will be able to respond to other invitations to different regions in Spain. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Spanish Commercial Delegation Wants Closer Ties

PA1006005292 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0100 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Report by Marianela Samper]

[Text] After five days of conversations and after having held 140 bilateral working sessions, businessmen from Huesca, Mallorca, Barcelona, and Zaragoza are preparing to return to Spain with a better understanding of the possibilities of investing in Cuba.

The Spanish commercial delegation was made up of 21 businesses and was coordinated by the Zaragoza Chamber of Commerce and Industry. This organization has been promoting closer ties between Spain and Cuba for the past 10 years.

In an evaluation of the tasks performed during the past days, Porfirio Mederos, vice president of the Cuban Chamber of Commerce [CCC], said the following:

[Begin Mederos recording] We concluded that this trip has been very positive. It has further strengthened Cuban-Spanish commercial ties. We are really satisfied. In my opinion, in addition to moving forward with respect to discussing well-known traditional bilateral issues, we have also been able to progress to cover other areas such as biotechnology, where suitable conditions have been created to enable initial steps to be taken to establish credit sources in the region of Aragon. These credit sources are very important to Cuba.

Other important issues were also discussed related to possibilities for tourism. We believe that very shortly the Cuban Tourism Institute authorities, along with the Zaragoza Chamber of Commerce authorities, will be able to find avenues to undertake joint projects that will serve to develop the tourism sector [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Fernando Lozano Pardo, president of the Foreign Trade Commission of the Zaragoza Chamber of Commerce and Industry, stated that the continuation of these type of contacts is as important as the gathering of information. Therefore, everyone must strive harder in order to increase commercial relations between both countries.

[Begin Lozano Pardo recording] [Words indistinct] Spanish businessmen that they must join the other firms

that are already doing business with Cuba. It is possible to do business with Cuba. We tend to read a lot of things about Cuba. I believe that one must visit the country in order to have a real understanding of the situation and of what is taking place [words indistinct]. I am also convinced that there is no problem with the agreements one signs with Cuba. I was informed this week that there has been an increase in exports between Cuba and Aragon during the first six months of the year compared to the last six months of 1991. This announcement really encourages me to continue promoting this issue. [end recording]

The occasion was also appropriate for the CCC to sign reports and agreements with the Zaragoza and Huasca Chambers of Commerce. This is evidence of the interest of both parties in the continued development of relations between Cuba and the different Spanish regions.

During the closing ceremony, the CCC publicly acknowledged Fernando Lozano Pardo's efforts. During the past 10 years, Mr. Lozano Pardo has been the organizer of this commercial mission, and the number of businessmen traveling to Cuba every year to establish business contacts continues to increase.

Spanish Ambassador in Cuba Gumersindo Rico y Rodriguez Villar also participated in the commercial meetings. Ambassador Rico urged more efficient and successful contacts between the Spanish businessmen and their Cuban counterparts, in order to further consolidate the friendship and solidarity between both trade missions.

Energy Savings Reported in Agricultural Transport

FL0306195492 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Text] More than 1.5 million quintals of agriculture products were transported by trains during the Agro 92 campaign from February to April. Today, GRANMA reporter Emilio del Barrio published a detailed analysis on the advantages of this form of transportation. Felix Hernando Garrido has the details.

[Begin Hernando recording] Faced with the dilemma of transporting agriculture products by trains or running the risk that they would not reach the population, logically the first option was chosen and the results have demonstrated the correctness of the decision.

Some 1,642,200 quintals of citrus fruit, potatoes, cabbage, and other products have been distributed. The use of trains and the shipment of agriculture products, for example, between Jaguey Grande and Havana City, saved almost 1.5 tons of fuel for every 400 tons of produce, if they had been transported in the conventional way by truck.

According to specialists, the losses caused by this method of transporting agriculture products are minimal when compared to the high volume of products which have been distributed. [end recording]

Recycling Contributes to Electricity Savings

FL0906204892 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Interview with Julio Vasquez, director of the Raw Materials Recycling Union, by Carlos Santana Ojeda; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Vasquez] We are doing a very serious job as a result of the near halt in production by a large number of bottlers, which has reduced glass sources. Another aspect is the situation of carbonate imports, which show a deficit, and this forces us to recycle as much glass as possible.

[Santana] What methods are being used to recycle glass?

[Vasquez] So that you will have an idea, we calculate that 30,000 tons of glass should be generated annually from waste during production, and about 10,000 tons should be generated both from small suppliers—that is, small consumers such as milk dispensers, bars, etc.—and from the glass that is in the public's hands. Therefore, we are working in the garbage dumps, where over the years large quantities of glass have been dumped. We are washing it. We are excavating it with backhoes. Then we disinfect it of any contaminants it may have in order to supply it to the factories.

This is one method; there are others. For example, the metal bottlecaps are being taken off with electromagnets, and this has produced very good results here in Havana City. There are other provinces, like Villa Clara, which have also begun to do this work.

Also, with the rest of the products—that is these and other products—transportation alternatives are also being used, with equipment using animal traction, even human traction, such as bicycles, wheelbarrows, etc., to try to minimize as much as possible the negative effect of the fuel shortage.

[Santana] What does recycling all this glass that had been thrown out contribute to the country?

[Vasquez] Imagine that up to 70 percent of this glass can be used as a substitute for carbonate; that is, a mixture can be made using up to 70 percent of this glass, and at times almost 100 percent is used as a substitute for virgin carbonate. This is in addition to the savings in electricity itself.

Conference on Biotechnology Opens 8 Jun

FL0806202392 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Just a few years ago, when a small group of Cuban scientists mastered the research field and presented interferon to the international arena as a triumph, we were all far from believing that on the morning of 8 June Cuba would host an international conference on biotechnology that, starting today, has gathered together more

than 1,000 delegates from 38 countries. If we say that we are the only country in the world to discover and patent a meningitis vaccine, also the only country to demonstrate recombinant streptokinase, and one of only two countries that use and market the growth factor, the reason Cuba is hosting this event becomes obvious.

This morning the eminent Swiss scientist (Kord Burich) was elected as the honorary president of the international biotechnology conference. He is one of the main promoters in the world of applying nuclear magnetic resonance and the three-dimensional structure of protein. (Burich) also praised Cuba and its valuable contributions in the research field.

At the opening session, Cuban Minister of Public Health Julio Teja thanked all the participants for believing in the wisdom of a small country and in our efforts and achievements. He also recognized that today's achievements are backed by the awareness and sacrifices of an entire people.

[Begin Teja recording] I have mentioned pride on several occasions. I think it is necessary to clarify that I am not referring at all to vanity but rather to the feeling of seeing the growth of something that has been built through the cooperation of many people. We could say that an entire people has often made sacrifices to place valuable resources in the hands of those who have the obligation and honor not to spare their efforts in order to improve the human condition. [end recording]

The first lecture of this event concluded a few minutes ago. It was given by Dr. Manuel Limonta, the director of the Cuban Center for [Genetic] Engineering and Biotechnology. There are 97 commercial firms—70 foreign and 27 Cuban—also participating in the Biotechnology 92 Conference. Through extensive exhibits, they show the major advances made in this field throughout the world. Starting today and for the next five days, Cuba will be the world's focus for biotechnology research. For a Third World country under a double embargo, this is quite simply a privilege which all Cubans share.

CETSS Approves Social Security Increases

FL0906202592 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] By means of Resolution No. 6, the State Committee for Labor and Social Security [CETSS] has established an increase of 10 pesos per month for all people who receive monetary aid from Social Security of up to 70 pesos, as well as an increase to 80 pesos for those who receive amounts between 70 and 80 pesos.

These changes are in accordance with the policy set forth by the leadership of the Communist Party of Cuba and the Cuban Government to increase, to the extent possible within the country's capabilities, the income of those people who receive small amounts. This serves as compensation for certain price increases for food products, which were motivated by the need to stimulate agricultural production without adding new subsidies which—to the contrary—should be reduced as much as possible.

* Workers Return to Construction Projects

92CA0166A

[Editorial Report] Havana GRANMA in Spanish on 27 May 1992 on page 2 reports that 2,000 construction workers in Guantanamo Province, who had been mobilized for agricultural work because of a lack of fuel and materials, have been transferred back to construction work. They will be involved in projects which include: microject irrigation systems for 16 caballerias; three agricultural camps in San Miguel, La Jabilla, and El Cuero; various water projects, including a dam and a canal; mountain roads; and 72 housing units. The housing units will be built using earth-cement blocks [artificial stone made of soil, water, and cement]. Prefabricated structures, steel, and tiles will not be used.

Haiti

Lower Chamber Ratifies Bazin as Prime Minister

FL1006224492 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 2200 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] The new consensus prime minister is now officially known. The choice of Marc Bazin as such has just been ratified by the Chamber of Deputies. Marc Bazin will present his declaration of general policy in the coming days. The vote on the choice of Marc Bazin at the Lower Chamber was accompanied by applause.

Debate Called 'Very Stormy'

FL1006153792 Port-au-Prince Radio Tropic FM in Creole 1200 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Excerpts] Yesterday [9 June] at the Chamber of Deputies, debate on the ratification of Marc Bazin was very stormy. It was very difficult to agree. Each parliamentary bloc took a different stand. The Parliamentary Cohesion bloc, that is, the partisans of the Villa d'Accueil tripartite agreement, wanted to vote on the choice of Marc L. Bazin at all costs.

Once again, the socialist bloc contested the legitimacy of Justice Nerette, saying Nerette does not have the right to appoint a prime minister. The socialist deputies asked for a meeting in camera. It seems that consensus was reached in the meeting in camera, according to Deputy Frederic Cheron. The following is a report from the editorial room of Tropic FM.

[Begin unidentified correspondent] Forty-six deputies were present on Tuesday 9 June at the ratification session of Marc Bazin as prime minister. At the beginning of the debate, Deputy Laveaux, a member of the socialist bloc, asked that the choice of this prime minister be discussed. Deputies Frantz Robert Monde, Frederic Cheron, and Gabriel Sanon protested.

During the session, the office [of the Chamber of Deputies] read a letter from the National Front for Change and Democracy [FNCD] bloc in which it asked that any consensus go through the Washington agreement protocol. Deputy Duly Brutus, a member of the socialist bloc, took note of the message of the FNCD bloc and stated that he remains in solidarity with the FNCD. However, when the committee formed to study the file of Marc Bazin presented its report to the office, Deputy Laveaux, a member of the socialist bloc, asked what entitles President Neretic to choose this prime minister; Laveaux questioned whether one can ignore Article 149 and then apply Article 148 of the Constitution. This gave rise to much discussion. [passage omitted]

At the request of Deputy Felix Mathieu, a 24-hour reprieve was granted yesterday as requested by the socialist bloc. In the meantime, the deputies formed a committee to rule on the consensus. The deputies will meet today for the ratification of Bazin, leader of the Movement for the Establishment of Democracy in Haiti.

Socialist Last-Minute Support

FL1106121292 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1100 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Excerpt] The new prime minister of the consensus government has been officially acknowledged. On the afternoon of 10 June, the deputies ratified Marc Bazin as consensus prime minister within the scope of the Villa d'Accueil tripartite agreement. The next step is for the leader of the Movement for the Establishment of Democracy in Haiti [MIDH] to appear before the two chambers of parliament to receive a vote of confidence on the basis of his statement of general policy.

The ratification of Marc Bazin was achieved yesterday thanks to the last-minute support of the parliamentary socialist bloc. It is to be recalled that the Senate had already ratified—on 5 June by 12 votes to one, with 14 of the 27 senators present—the choice of the MIDH leader as prime minister. It is also to be recalled that the National Front for Change and Democracy parliamentarians did not attend any of those sessions. [passage omitted]

Bazin, Leaders May Meet in Dominican Republic

FL1006190692 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] A meeting seems to be scheduled for Haitian political leaders to confer in the Dominican Republic next week on the Haitian political crisis. This meeting, announced by diplomatic sources in the Dominican Republic, should include Marc Bazin, prime minister-designate, parliamentarians, and several other political leaders. The participation of ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide is under consideration.

You will recall that last week the Dominican Government opposed sending a multinational force into Haiti, pointing out that a solution to the Haitian crisis should occur with the Haitian parties. However, we contacted some political leaders who denied any knowledge of such a meeting in the Dominican Republic.

Confrontation With Zenglendos Leaves 6 Dead

FL1006162092 Port-au-Prince Radio Tropic FM in Creole 1200 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Six persons were killed and five seriously injured on the night of 8 to 9 June in Vieux Bourg d'Aquin. This incident occurred during a confrontation between a group of zenglendos [thugs] and the people. According to a military source, the police came to the victims' assistance and arrested several of the bandits.

Authorities Release Priest in Les Cayes

FL0806212292 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 8 Jun 92

(Text] In Les Cayes, Father Denis Verdier, director of the Catholic humanitarian organization Caritas, has been released. Father Denis Verdier, who was arrested a week ago ago charged with antigovernment political activities, was conditionally released on 6 June.

Furthermore, a group of parliamentarians traveled last week to Les Cayes. Following this visit, several people who were arrested in the area after the fire at the police station in Camp Perrin have been released.

* Chiapas Politico-Religious Disputes Discussed

* Complexities Cited

92CA0158A Mexico City PROCESO in Spanish
No 807, 20 Apr 92 pp 10-14

[Report by Rodrigo Vera]

[Text] San Cristobal de las Casas—The confrontation here on Wednesday 1 April among more than 8,000 Chamula Indians, 34 of whom were seriously injured, has intensified the struggle between the Indians and the caciques in San Juan Chamula (the latter have the support of Governor Patrocinio Gonzalez Garrido) and has pushed this region to the brink of destabilization.

Triggered by the expulsion of more and more Indians who refuse to help finance religious festivals, the conflict also reflects the struggle between the so-called Chiapas Orthodox Catholic Church and the new Evangelical groups.

Lorenzo Perez Jolote, the mayor of San Juan Chamula, who has ordered the expulsions, has issued this categorical threat:

"We will continue to have expulsions. And we will not allow those whom we have already kicked out to return."

"Why are you expelling them?"

"Because they do not contribute to our festivals. They say that our St. John the Baptist is made of wood; that if you set fire to him, he burns like wood; that if you leave him in the field, fungus grows on him, like wood. They are renouncing the legacy of our parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents. They do not want to comply with their stewardship obligations. They go to San Cristobal and come back with other ideas. This is why we are kicking them out."

Samuel Ruiz, the bishop of San Cristobal, says, "The confrontation was caused by the oppressive political, economic, and religious cacique power that besets the Chiapas Highlands region and that has the support of the government of Gonzalez Garrido, who has conveniently chosen not to resolve the problem."

He adds, "Lacking a social base to support it, PRI [Institutional Revolutionary Party] has utilized cacique power as a means of control. Moreover, the Chamulas have been its platform for proclaiming a Mexican indigenous movement. They are the overseas showcase of our Indians. All of the candidates for president of the Republic, governor, and state congressmen pay obligatory visits to San Juan Chamula."

The recent confrontation began brewing last March, when the authorities in San Juan Chamula (a municipality with more than 50,000 Indians in 86 communities or "parajes" [places]) said that they would expel 1,000 Indians because they were refusing to contribute financially to the town festivities in the form of stewardship obligations and because they were practicing the Evangelical religion, of Protestant origin, or the Catholic religion, both of which are opposed to their traditional faith, which they call orthodox Catholicism and impose by force.

In light of this situation, a group of Chamulas who had already been expelled and who are currently living in the La Hormiga colonia on the outskirts of San Cristobal, called on Gonzalez Garrido in a full-page announcement in TIEMPO on 20 March to prevent this further mass expulsion and thus ward off "a major social problem."

On 21 March about 2,000 of the Indians who had been expelled even staged a march in San Cristobal to protest the further expulsions that were being planned.

Since the governor did not respond and since the San Juan Chamula authorities had arrested 44 Indians on 31 March and later expelled them, the Evangelicals, as the dissidents call themselves (although some are Catholic), seized the judge, the city manager, and the chauffeur of the mayor of San Juan Chamula on the night of the 31st and tied them to a pole in La Hormiga.

The next day, 1 April, about 8,000 Indians from San Juan Chamula arrived in La Hormiga in 76 buses and cordoned off the colonia. They came prepared to free their municipal authorities.

The incident was reported to Gonzalez Garrido, who this time promptly sent in Elmar Setzer Marceille, the secretary for community participation and former president of the State Congress, to resolve the conflict.

Setzer Marceille brought together representatives of the two sides at the San Cristobal mayor's office so that they could peacefully exchange their hostages and reach an agreement. Lorenzo Perez Jolote headed the group from San Juan Chamula, and Domingo Lopez Angel, the leader of the Council of Indigenous Representatives of the Chiapas Highlands, to which thousands of expelled Indians belong, represented the "Evangelicals."

Patrocinio's envoy accomplished nothing. Perez Jolote refused to come to terms and left the meeting, while his 8,000 Indians, armed with rocks, clubs, and firearms, destroyed and looted La Hormiga and the nearby colonia of Getzemani. They freed their authorities and then kicked out the individuals whom they were holding prisoner in San Juan Chamula.

Men, women, and children from both groups began arriving with wounds at the hospitals of the Red Cross, the IMSS [Mexican Social Security Institute], the Health Secretariat, and the Bonilla Sanatorium in San Cristobal. Some who had been hit by rocks wound up losing an eye.

That same night, agents of the State Judicial Police arrested Domingo Lopez Angel without a warrant, on charges that he had headed up the kidnapping of the San Juan Chamula officials, and took him to the Cerro Hueco jail in Tuxtla Gutierrez, where he remains behind bars.

At daybreak the following day, the colonias of the Indians who had been expelled were empty. The roofs of the houses had been destroyed by rocks, and the furniture inside was in disarray in the wake of the looting. Entire families wandered fearfully through the streets of San Cristobal or sought refuge in the shelters of the National Indian Institute, whose director, Joel Sanmartin, recounts: "We gave lodging to 478 Indians. Hopefully the government can address the root of the problem, which is obviously more than religious."

The 600 issues of the newspaper TIEMPO in which the incident was reported were also seized that day. Its editor, Concepcion Villafuerte, says: "By 10 in the morning not a single copy was left. People from the government intercepted our paperboys and bought their whole supply, openly violating the right to information. That day, the second, President Carlos Salinas de Gortari was in Tuxtla Gutierrez. They unquestionably wanted to keep the news from him."

To calm people down, three days after the row, on Saturday the fourth, Gonzalez Garrido visited San Juan Chamula. He timidly told some 10,000 Indians whom the caciques had brought to the main square: "We are going to guarantee culture and tradition, but we are not going to make violent expulsions."

Wearing a Tzotzil hat and jacket, he promised that after Holy Week he would send the State Congress a bill in this connection.

Lorenzo Perez Jolote roundly proclaims, however, "We will continue to make expulsions, even if the government does not like it."

Lorenzo Perez Jolote, the short, 52-year-old son of Juan Perez Jolote, about whom anthropologist Ricardo Pozas wrote a biography, says that everyone in San Juan Chamula belongs to PRI.

"There are no people from other parties here."

He lists the town's main feast days: Sebastian the Martyr from 18 to 20 January; the carnival in February; the feast of Saint Joseph on 19 March; Holy Week, this year in April; the feast of the Holy Cross in May; St. John the Baptist from 19 to 24 June; St. Rosa of Lima from 28 to 30 August; St. Matthew the Apostle on 20 and 21 September; the Virgin of the Rosary from 5 to 7 October; All Saints Day in November, and Christmas Eve in December.

He points to a group of Indians chatting in the square under three huge wooden crosses painted green. Some are carrying harps, guitars, and accordions; others are attaching ribbons to their hats. All are drinking hard liquor.

"We are getting ready for Holy Week," he says.

Surrounded by some 20 Indians who are looking suspiciously at this reporter, he continues: "We are not dependent on Samuel Ruiz. We have our own bishops (this is what they call their religious leaders). It used to be Father Agustin, who is now dead. Now it is Father Rafael from the church of San Pascualito in Tuxtla. Every two weeks he comes here to perform baptisms."

White on the outside, the church of St. John the Baptist is half-lit on the inside and smells of candle smoke and the pine branches covering the floor. Groups of Chamula Indians are drinking liquor and Coca-Cola as they pray to the saints lining the smoke-stained walls. The saints have mirrors on their chests so that "evil bounces off them." Visitors must pay 2,000 pesos at the mayor's office to enter. Taking photos is forbidden.

"Otherwise they turn the photos into cards and make money off them," explains Perez Jolote.

The San Cristobal diocese was unable to do anything here. In 1966 it sent a mission to do pastoral work. According to Pablo Iribarren's "Chamula Mission" investigation, the missionaries encountered Indians who were "stubborn and pigheaded, indifferent to pain, criminals, and very much given to drunkenness." Ever since Hernan Cortes, these Indians have been governed by their own laws. Very soon the Catholic priests were faced with "riots among caciques, witch doctors, or standard-bearers," who threatened to kill them. They were kicked out in 1984, along with some nuns from the Order of St. Clair. Samuel Ruiz explains: "San Juan Chamula has a pre-Colombian religion with a veneer of Christianity that lacks deep faith. A religious sandwich with elements of the two. It is one of the few places in the country that has maintained its cultural identity. This is very valuable."

What he disapproves of, however, is the fact that "the defense and maintenance of cultural unity are also being used, through aggressive domination, to hold onto power."

He has this to say about Agustin Garcia de la Cruz, Father Agustin, who took the place of the ousted priests, appointed himself bishop, and founded the Chiapas Orthodox Catholic Church, which conducts pagan rites in Latin facing away from the parishioners.

"When he was a student, he was expelled from three seminaries, and as a priest he worshiped a wooden skeleton in the church of St. Pascual Bailon in Tuxtla. He said it was the skeleton of St. Pascual, a Spanish martyr whose ashes were tossed into the Ebro River. After buying his religious vestments at Las Fabricas de Lyon, in downtown Mexico City, he came to San Juan Chamula. Thanks to the support of the caciques, he bought a ranch here and another in Veracruz, his home state. He is dead now. I do not know who has replaced him."

Gaspar Morquecho Escamilla, an anthropologist who specializes in the Chamula culture and is currently working with the Chiltak organization, which gives support and advice to the Indians, agrees with the bishop:

"The conflict arose because the people who were expelled oppose the caciques in San Juan Chamula, who

hold political and economic control, which has been undermined now by the inroads of the Evangelical churches, which for example prohibit intoxicating beverages, the sale of which is controlled by the caciques."

And he mentions them by name: "Salvador Lopez Castellanos is one of the oldest. He ordered major expulsions in 1974. There is also Juan Eunes Chaquilchij, the Gomez Osos, the Portillos, the Mamano Calixtos. These families are creating dynasties and hold the real power in San Juan Chamula. They control transport, the sale of candles and hard liquor, and even the production of poppies and marijuana, which there is a lot of here. They brought in the crowd when Patrocinio came to speak."

He goes on to say: "Just as the Jews were persecuted in Europe, the Evangelicals and Catholics are being persecuted in San Juan Chamula when they refuse to make obligatory contributions and perform religious duties, which are very burdensome. The caciques and the government want to stay in control. If they resolve the problem, they lose power. The Indian caciques guarantee support for the state and votes for PRI."

He adds that this strategy also helps to obstruct the "grassroots agenda" of the San Cristobal diocese, albeit not in a head-on way, as when Patrocinio's government took Father Joel Padron hostage in Cerro Hueco jail and said it would release him only if the diocese stopped speaking out against violations of the Indians' rights (PROCESO 780).

The Fray Bartoleme de las Casas Human Rights Center cited an example of the alliance between the government and the caciques in its March 1991 newsletter HORIZONTES:

On 4 July 1988, on the eve of the federal elections, Chamula officials refused to take receipt of the documents needed to hold the election because there were 21 arrest warrants out for them. The Chiapas government quickly revoked them. All of the votes in the ballot boxes turned out to be for PRI.

The center amplified this in its September 1991 newsletter:

"The state government has no rank and file (personnel) in the indigenous communities, except the authorities of the moment. So if any local authority commits an injustice, the state government cannot punish it at the risk of losing its only instrument for influence and control. In other words, Indian policy depends on the relationship established with the local authorities. The entire country has mortgaged its international image, in connection with Indian policy, on this type of relationship....

"To break with the local authorities means to break with the fragile national and international image of Indian policy, and it also means destroying the only instrument for state control in these municipalities. The price of this relationship is being paid by the victims of the high-handed acts of the local authorities, specifically, more than 15,000 people who have been expelled so far.

"These abuses of Indian families are always committed with the argument that they have switched from the traditional Catholic faith to Protestantism or because they are reluctant to take on religious obligations (stewardship duties, standard bearers, etc.). The real reason is clearly the struggle for power. One example are the attacks on and threats against the Indians from Nachig's PRD [Party of the Democratic Revolution] and the Catholics who oppose cacique control."

The expulsions began in 1974 in San Juan Chamula and later spread to Chenalho, Chalchihuitan, Mitontic, San Cristobal, Huistan, Amatenango del Valle, and Tenejapa. Since then the people expelled have sought refuge in other municipalities. More than 12,000 have settled in San Cristobal de las Casas alone. Next comes the municipality of Teopisca, where they have established the Betania, Nueva Galilea, and Jerusalen colonias.

The evicted families live in "subhuman conditions" in the foothills. They are without the most basic amenities, such as housing, water, electricity, and plumbing, according to a survey conducted by various nongovernmental human-rights groups in March 1991.

Most are street vendors, 80 percent. The rest are craftsmen, bricklayers, stall merchants, and, especially in the case of children and youngsters, criminals. "They arrive in a hostile environment, without any money, with the language barrier, unable to find work that fits in with their culture, with hungry families, and in terribly competitive surroundings." Almost all are monolingual; they speak Tzotzil or Tzeltal.

"We have to make money to eat. There is no other choice. Besides, we have to put up with the people from San Juan Chamula, who as you can see have attacked us," says Maria Lopez Hernandez, an Indian woman who is wearing a patch over one eye where she was struck by a rock. Originally from the community of Chivitenal in Chamula, she is the wife of arrested leader Domingo Lopez Angel; they have lived in La Hormiga for five years.

Although the Chiapas Congress considered the expulsions as "defense mechanisms" to preserve the traditions and customs of ethnic groups, it has promised to amend the Penal Code to punish those responsible for them.

"New laws are not needed. If the existing ones were enforced, the expulsions would end," says a skeptical Samuel Ruiz.

* Debate on Legislation

92CA0158B Mexico City PROCESO in Spanish No 808, 27 Apr 92 pp 20-23

[Report by Rodrigo Vera]

[Text] Tuxtla Gutierrez—Two radically opposed bills created confusion among the audience at the public forum titled "The Indian Expulsions and Respect for Their Cultures," which the Congress organized on Wednesday 22 April and Thursday 23 April. One bill, submitted by Governor Patrocinio Gonzalez Garrido, seeks to penalize the expulsion of Indians, while the other, from PRI [Institutional Revolutionary Party] State Congressman Mariano Gomez Lopez, aims at legalizing such action.

The two bills also prompted heated debate between Evangelical leaders, who supported Gonzalez Garrido's bill, and Indian authorities, who leaned towards the state congressman's. Others, such as the diocese of San Cristobal de las Casas and outside observers, rejected both.

Others also saw these opposing bills as a maneuver by Gonzalez Garrido to leave things as they are and merely prompt debate. Pablo Salazar Mendiguchia, an attorney who is a practicing Evangelical, stated:

"Is this just theater or what? If Patrocinio's bill is passed, it will leave the door wide open to religious proselytizing. If the expulsions are legalized, the caciques will be allowed to do whatever they wish, and an official religion will be imposed in San Juan Chamula. And if both are passed, there will be chaos."

Salazar Mendiguchia read some remarks that Congressman Gomez Lopez had made to a local newspaper last year when he condemned the expulsions that he now supports. "So what does the government want?" he asked.

Lorenzo Perez Jolote, the mayor of San Juan Chamula, who has headed up the expulsions in his municipality, asserted confidently: "I do not think they will be approved. And further discussion is still needed. Nothing has been settled."

"What will you do if the expulsions are outlawed?"

"We already have plans."

"What sort of plans?"

"Right now I cannot say anything."

Samuel Ruiz, the bishop of San Cristobal de las Casas, expressed skepticism in his report at the forum:

"The measures taken by the state authorities have not worked because they would have to affect the municipal authority, which is needed to retain Chamula as a platform from which the regime can proclaim its official Indian policy."

And he argued that any changes must not be imposed unilaterally, "but rather as part of a dialogue that includes the Chamulas who are not living in the municipality and, in particular, those who have been expelled."

Gonzalez Garrido's bill wants Article 146 of the Chiapas Penal Code to read:

"A four- to eight-year prison term and a fine of 20 to 60 days wages shall be imposed on anyone who through physical or moral pressure provokes or executes the expulsion of one or more individuals from the community in which they have their customary or temporary residence by citing political or religious reasons or differences in the observance of community traditions, practices, or customs, regardless of whether such conduct gives rise to other crimes described in this code. The same penalty shall apply to the masterminds or to those who order an expulsion."

Mariano Gomez Lopez proposes to amend the first eight articles of the Chiapas Constitution so that those who do not "observe the cultural values of the original peoples" can be expelled because they are thus attacking "their identity as peoples."

Both proposals were discussed by 46 speakers at the forum: the three Chiapas bishops, municipal officials of Indian towns, Evangelical leaders, representatives of human rights groups, academics, and intellectuals.

Some 200 persons, including Indians from Chamula, Oxchuc, Zinacantan, Tenejapa, Chenalo, and Mitontic, listened to them in the hall of the Congress. Outside, other groups of Indians watched the debate on television monitors. All were wearing their traditional garb; some even had musical instruments.

The leaders of the Evangelical religions supported Patrocinio's initiative.

Andres Castelazo Noguera, representing the Christian Auditorium Church of Tuxtla, condemned the expulsions and denied that his religion is encouraging divisiveness: "Our work as spiritual leaders is only to present the path of truth through the Gospel...so that man can abandon his vices and passions and become a responsible citizen.

"We approve of the initiative because it allows people to live together in accordance with their own ambitions, inasmuch as after the recent expulsions we are on the brink of a new inquisition."

Sergio Franco, the pastor of the Church of the Nazarene in Tuxtla, asserted that the expulsions are due to "the unwillingness of a majority to live together with a minority that thinks differently" and that "to extirpate (sic) families to hostile environments is the surest way to have this culture disappear."

Manuel Guzman Perez, a representative of the National Forum of Evangelical Christian Churches in Puebla, said that freedom is more important than tradition and attacked both the "emphasis on folklore that denies basic freedoms" and the Catholic Church, which through the sword and the harquebus "has imposed saints of wood and cloth."

He voiced support for modern life in opposition to "the traditional obscurantism that promotes alcoholism, forced contributions, and paganism among the Indians."

After quoting lines from the National Anthem and exalting the figures of Juarez, Villa, and Zapata, he asked that the property seized from the expelled people be returned to them.

In later remarks he attacked Geronimo Prigione, Pope John Paul II's representative in Mexico, for having compared the Evangelicals to flies:

"Aggressiveness has never come from Christian churches. Aggressiveness comes from the Catholic Church. Its hierarchy has referred to us in derogatory terms. Prigione said that we were like flies that had to be killed. May his bishops gathered here bring him to task! Tell your representative to be careful!...He is calling for a holy war!"

Chiapas Bishops Felipe Aguirre Franco from Tuxtla and Felipe Arizmendi from Tapachula (Samuel Ruiz did not attend but sent in his speech) did not reply to him.

Roger Grajales, the president of the State Congress and moderator of the meeting, had to speak up to quiet the Evangelical representative.

"With all due respect, we are talking here only about expulsions," he reminded him.

The Indian authorities were the ones who confronted the Evangelical leaders most directly.

Martin Gomez Lopez, the municipal judge of Amatenango del Valle, accused them of having divided his town.

"The government should kick them out of the municipality. We are asking that our traditions be respected," he said. "People show up and say that they have come to study our language, but then they start evangelizing, mocking our saints; they say that they are made of wood and plaster. Many of our people take up their religion so that they do not have to contribute to the feast days."

Enrique Gomez Patishtan, a representative from San Juan Chamula, said that the 56,000 inhabitants of this municipality would continue to preserve their traditions through "agents" who monitor observance of their customs. He called for support for the bill submitted by Congressman Gomez Lopez, who used to be the mayor of Chamula:

"The pastors began arriving in 1945, with the Summer Institute of Linguistics. They changed our customs and divided our towns. We want them punished. Instead of bibles, churches, and pastors, we need science books, schools, and bilingual teachers. We are asking that the Indians who practice another religion be warned. If they backslide, they should be given a traditional task, and if they do not accept it, they should be expelled. The governor told us that we ought to preserve our customs. This is what we are doing.

"I do not like the use of the word cacique; it is a personal affront. The pastors are the caciques; they go from house to house trying to control the minds of others. And the anthropologists first come to our towns and sit down to eat with us. Later, at the roundtables, they say: 'Screw the Indians!'"

Pascual Gustavo Rodriguez Mendez, the mayor of Mitontic, also blamed the Evangelicals, who introduce "alien customs," for the "chaotic situation in our towns."

Chamula painter Juan Gallo sat there staring at the participants. Then he said:

"I am talking with strangers who have never been with us. They do not know how to handle a hoe or a machete. They are talking to us about purely theoretical things that are not true. They say that we are caciques and savages. That is a lie."

Guzman Perez, the Evangelical, replied:

"If they do not want us to call them caciques, then we will call them malevolent exploiters and manipulators! I hope that the governor's bill is passed so that they are done away with and the people who were expelled can return to their communities."

The only victim of expulsion who took the floor was Jacobo Lopez Santis, who said through an interpreter that people are being expelled for refusing to attend government-organized rallies and for not accepting religious tasks. He called for punishment for the caciques.

Bishops Felipe Aguirre Franco and Felipe Arizmendi cautiously asked that human rights be respected, as they are above ethnic groups and creeds. They denounced the expulsions and said that man must come before customs. In conclusion, they called on their legislators to listen carefully to the opinions of the people before passing either bill.

The academics, intellectuals, and representatives of human rights groups also spoke.

Enrique Maza, PROCESO's news chief, speaking "with the fear and reserve of someone viewing the procession from the bell tower," said on a personal level:

"If the governor's bill is passed, repression will be used to defend a culture, but a culture can defend itself only through change, freedom, and novelty. No culture is perfect and absolute; it needs change and conflict and can always be improved. Our indigenous peoples are far from having political and economic freedom. So, this bill prompts conflicting sentiments in me."

Jan de Vos, a member of the Center for Environmental, Social, and Anthropological Sciences in San Cristobal de las Casas, said that the expulsions reflect "a deep-seated identity crisis" in an ethnic group that is suffering from geographic isolation, racial segregation, and political cacique power.

"The winds from the outside and the inside are destroying it. This is why the Indians are defying the authorities. And the authorities, out of their deep-seated insecurity, are reacting violently. The mechanisms that used to enable these communities to function are giving signs that they are coming to an end. The governor's bill cures the symptom but not the disease."

Artemia Fabre, representing the Mexican Anthropology Association, asserted that the two bills do not address the root of the problem, which is more complex and pits common law against constitutional law. "At present the Indians do not have democratic alternatives. They are trapped in the power game: either the cacique or the pastor," he said.

Andre Aubrey, the director of the diocesan registry of San Cristobal, also mentioned this clash, which could become explosive, between "the established power" and the new religious groups, a clash that he said "will not be resolved by decree."

Gaspar Morquecho, an anthropologist who works with the Chiltak organization in San Cristobal, which supports the evicted Indians, then exclaimed angrily: "Neither God nor the State!...They are turning to decrees, laws, and sanctions, facile solutions that carry the risk of sharpening and prolonging the conflicts, while the root causes of the expulsions are not dealt with."

Likewise, Natalio Hernandez, the representative of the National Council for Culture and the Arts, asked that "the peoples themselves be the ones to settle their differences, without the interests of third parties becoming involved. The best solution is tolerance and respect, as has already happened with the Indians from the Mezquital. The law should not be an element of coercion here."

Juan Carlos Martinez, a representative of the Fray Francisco de Vitoria Human Rights Center, asked that an exhaustive investigation be conducted into the principal places in which there have been expulsions, who has benefited from them, and what has happened to the belongings of those expelled, who ought to be brought back into their communities.

At the close of the forum the Chiapas Congress promised to publish the speakers' remarks, to translate them into Tzeltal and Tzotzil, and to publicize them widely. It added that it would call further forums of consultation.

* INI Officials Arrested

92CA0158C Mexico City PROCESO in Spanish No 807, 20 Apr 92 pp 10-11

[Report by Guillermo Correa]

[Text] The top directors of the National Indian Institute [INI] in Chiapas were arrested last 29 February on orders from Governor Patrocinio Gonzalez Garrido; they were charged with fraud, which they deny they committed. Chiapas Indians have defended them in letters to the president of the Republic. They say that the real reason for their arrest is that the chief executive "wants an INI that serves him and that helps the caciques in the various regions around the state." Proceedings against the officials are continuing, even though they have been held for 44 days in Cerro Hueco Prison and even though two of them paid 166 million pesos each for their release on bail.

The defendants are: Ricardo Alfonso Paniagua Guzman, the state coordinator; Argimiro Cortes Esteban, the director of the Indian Coordinating Center in Ocosingo; Carlos Humberto Albores Sanchez, the head of the animal husbandry section; Jose Antonio Solorzano and Augusto Zamudio Cabrera, suppliers; Alfredo Medina Hernandez, Juan Jose Lau, and Jose Marcelino Carrasco, from the state coordinator's office. They all argue that "our only crime has been to carry out the current Indian policy, as dictated by President Carlos Salinas de Gortari."

Campesino organizations, cooperative associations, Indian groups, and workers from the institute itself have charged in writing that the arrests were made without warrants, violently, and deceitfully and that three underage daughters of one of the defendants were also seized.

According to accounts, Dr. Paniagua was summoned to the airport and was taken from there to the municipality of Chilon to a meet with the governor, where he met with the government secretary, who greeted him and asked him to get into his car. They drove him in that car straight to the office of the state's attorney, without giving him any explanation.

Anthropologist Argimiro Cortes was summoned to a meeting at 1000 that was to be attended by the governor in the municipality of Chilon. He went. At 1100 on Saturday 29 February he was arrested. Accountant Alfredo Medina was arrested along with his three daughters (ages three, six, and seven) "without being allowed to communicate afterwards with any of them, as the state police had them kidnapped for more than six hours." Almost the same thing happened to the rest of the officials, the difference being that they were beaten and "brutally" dragged from their homes.

According to the state government, the officials committed fraud against the Indians in the municipalities of Ocosingo and Chilon by means of a livestock project with an authorized budget of 857,645,000 pesos. The campesinos say that this is not true, however, and that they have indeed gotten benefits from the program.

They explain: "The goals of the program were: to buy 330 zebu-Swiss heifers and 16 zebu Indo-Brazilian stud animals with an eye towards setting up dual-purpose cattle units in the communities of Jotoaquil, El Censo, Laguna Santa Elena, Hermenegildo Galeana, and Romulo Calzada." However, at the time of the purchase the representatives of the beneficiaries asked that local animals be bought and that

another breed be chosen because, besides the inadequate number, they would have trouble handling them because of their inexperience.

Everyone agreed to sign, after which 464 zebu-Swiss and zebu-native heifers and 21 stud animals, instead of 16, were purchased. "Therefore, we feel that this action is nothing more than an orchestrated slander against the many years of work that the INI has been doing for the benefit of the the disadvantaged Indian groups in the state."

In their complaints the Chiapas Indians say that the current governor's policy of persecuting and arresting the people who are helping them to be self-sufficient is nothing new. They recall the case of the INI director in the Margaritas region, who was fired last year. The same fate befell the delegates in Copainala and Ocotepec, while the delegates in San Cristobal de las Casas, Mazapa de Madero, Tila, and Ixtacomitan were arrested.

At present, they add, the main offices of the INI in the state are under police surveillance, even though the personnel there "have done nothing more than provide positive support to the Indians. But the governor and the caciques want us to keep on living as we did last century."

The letters were sent to the president of the republic by the INI workers at the coordinating center in the Lacondon Jungle and the State Council for the Marketing of Agricultural Products, which is made up of 43 organizations, including 16 regional Solidarity funds, among others. In turn, the INI, which is headed at the federal level by Guillermo Espizonza Velasco, has "expressed its concern over the matter."

In the opinion of Carlos Puga Quiroga, the assistant director of penal affairs for the INI, we can be sure that the officials were not pursuing any interests of their own; rather, they were at all times seeking to help the indigenous communities of Chiapas.

Nicaragua

H. Ortega on Obstacle to Aid, Army-Party Link

PA1006170792 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] When Commander of the Armed Forces General Humberto Ortega appeared before the Legislative Assembly's Human Rights Commission today, he urged the human rights organizations operating in Nicaragua to set politics aside in order to appear more credible when they present their charges. We have here General Ortega's comments.

[Begin Ortega recording] We should all contribute so those organizations that charge human rights violations [words indistinct] in Nicaragua are persuaded and convinced to set politics aside so they are more credible. That way, when Armed Forces members are summoned for questioning, we will not feel defensive. We should simply feel that suggestions are being made to us so we will not repeat past mistakes. We are aware that on an individual level, there have been human rights violations in the Armed Forces. However, as an armed institution, we have not violated human rights. We have fought against such occurrences, but there have been isolated and individual incidents. That was particularly true at the beginning of a war as serious as the one we were engaged in and during the very polarized political process we experienced in the past. It is impossible for human rights violations not to exist under those circumstances. There have been some isolated cases involving individual Armed Forces members, but as an institution we have been very careful to watch over this matter. Within the Armed Forces, we have organized a military authority to investigate accusations or charges of human rights violations committed by armed institution members. We are making an effort, and we know that much more must be done in this area—yes, much more. We believe that within the context of the national reconciliation process, insofar as human rights are concerned, we should make greater efforts to see that the human rights institutions in Nicaragua are not linked to politics. [end recording]

After coming before the Legislative Assembly's Human Rights Commission, General Ortega—in response to reporters who questioned him regarding his tenure as head of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS]—the high-ranking military officer replied that in other armed institutions, the time in service is 25 to 30 years before retiring.

[Begin recording] [Ortega] Every armed institution has its own rules and regulations, and as a permanent state institution, we abide by our regulations. Currently in the world and in Latin America, the officers general serve from 25 to 30 years. In my case, I have only served 12 years. A soldier must serve 25 years. I do not feel tied to nor am I clinging to any post. I feel, however, that it is my duty to be at the head of the armed institution to help in this very difficult transition as the Armed Forces were very politicized in the past, particularly during the first years of the revolution. We want to help in the transition to a professional institution, with no political ties, at the service of the institution and of the law. Above all, we want to actively contribute to the reconciliation process aimed at achieving stability in this country.

[Unidentified reporter] It is said that the obstacle to the $10 million in aid coming to this country is that the Armed Forces is in the hands of a party. Would you resign in order for that aid to be given to Nicaragua?

[Ortega] The aid problem does not lie there because the Armed Forces are not in the hands of any party. The problem is that some people think that in order for the Armed Forces not to belong to any party, it must disappear. The truth is that there is no one in the history of this country who has not participated in politics. Therefore, no one could be a member of the Armed Forces or of the police force. The aid problem is basically a problem of the executive branch and the president of the Legislative Assembly, who has been having difficulties with President Chamorro. It is he who has hindered the government's efforts to obtain foreign aid; it is not a problem with the Armed Forces. It would be very simplistic to think that it is only a problem with the Armed Forces because we definitely do not belong to any party. If in the past we were an Army-party blend, even prior to the elections, we have been struggling to become totally independent from the Sandinist National Liberation Front. [end recording]

PLI Head Rejects Presidency Minister Statement

PA1006170192 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2200 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Doctor Wilfredo Navarro Moreira, president of the Independent Liberal Party, has stated he was astonished to hear that Violeta Barrios de Chamorro's administration sponsors demonstrations in front of the U.S. Embassy. Engineer Antonio Lacayo Oyanguren compares democratic groups with Sandinist hordes when it comes to carrying out demonstrations in front of embassies accredited in our country, he added.

[Begin Navarro recording] Mr. Lacayo acts and talks as if he owns Nicaragua. This is significant because Mr. Lacayo has never been legally authorized by the people to assume the role of Nicaraguan president, yet he practically acts as if he is the president of Nicaragua by pushing aside the president of the Republic and mocking the people's will.

Another thing we should mention is the language and expressions used by Mr. Lacayo when he talks. His expressions...[pauses] I was listening on 8 June to recordings of Mr. Lacayo's latest statements and they reminded me of the Sandinists' vocabulary and expressions: We will take over this and that; we will protest in front of the U.S. Embassy; we will punish; heads will roll. These are clearly Sandinist expressions!

When Antonio Lacayo issues an appeal to the Nicaraguan people and Nicaragua's leading groups urging them to protest in front of the U.S. Embassy, he is simply repeating the grotesque demonstrations that were sponsored by the Sandinists every Thursday in front of the U.S. Embassy. I see it as the same mechanism. First it was the Sandinists who artificially sponsored demonstrations in front of the U.S. Embassy. Now it is the Nicaraguan Government—in this case the presidency minister—which sponsors them and goads the Nicaraguan people to protest in front of the U.S. Embassy.

This man's attitude is abusive because he is trying to confuse or compare democratic organizations like the COSEP [Higher Council of Private Enterprise], the workers, and the political parties, which are clearly independent organizations, with the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] organizations. He offers advice as if the country's democratic organizations were inflexible and depended on another organization like the FSLN's peripheral organizations depend on the FSLN.

This is another confused action, another mistake by Minister Lacayo, who believes he can manipulate things or businessmen in Nicaragua like the FSLN manipulates the UNAG [National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen] and the CST [Sandinist Central Organization of Workers]. The difference is quite evident. The problem is the presidency minister's totalitarian confusion. He is always around dictators, criminals, and thieves—meaning the Sandinists—so he must necessarily share his FSLN allies' vices.

I also believe the presidency minister's statements reveal great desperation. He is desperate because he can no longer control the situation. Lacayo's desperate attitude—a suicidal attitude, I might add—leads him to protest in front of the U.S. Embassy, and it also compels him to come closer to his allies, the Sandinists, whose language and methods he imitates. How unfortunate for Nicaragua that all those who achieve power become dictators and crooks.

I am quite clear about one thing: It is not true that the U.S. aid is not being sent to Nicaragua because political parties or Congress do not want to send it. We will not obtain that aid by protesting in front of the U.S. Embassy. If Minister Lacayo really wants that aid he must punish those who killed Commander Fernando, who was recently shot 12 times in the back at Boaco. He must punish those who killed that young man, Genie. He must punish Enrique Bermudez' killers. He must make sure justice prevails on behalf of thousands of people whose land was confiscated in Nicaragua. He must guarantee an adequate solution to the land ownership issue. He must create an apolitical and professional police force. He must cut military expenses. He must really give independence to the judicial branch.

These and many other things would speed up the disbursement of U.S. aid. The government is the culprit. The government has failed to fulfill its pledge to democratize Nicaragua so the U.S. aid has been suspended. There is no need to look for scapegoats. The culprit of the U.S. aid's suspension is the group of corrupt and despotic crooks—most of them, anyway—who surround the presidency minister, creating a new economic and political bloc that obstructs the Nicaraguan people's hopes for democracy. [end recording]

Panama

Chevalier Statement on Unrest, Bush Visit

PA1106033292 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 0215 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Statement by Government and Justice Minister Juan Chevalier in Panama City on 9 June—recorded]

[Text] Dear and esteemed Panamanian people: Given the incidents that have occurred throughout the day, when a group of high school students, supported by National University students and well-known groups from the previous regime, disrupted public order in Panama City, we wish to tell you that this government—a democratic, law-abiding, and legal government—has always been tolerant with all expressions of dissidence and displeasure and has allowed all kinds of demonstrations. It has made sure the demonstrations take place according to the law and culture, as befitting a civilized country.

Nevertheless, there are apparently some groups that think such democratic tolerance is a sign of the government's weakness. I want to tell them not to be deceived. Democracy is tolerant, but democracy cannot participate in actions that alter the majority of the Panamanian people's life. Those groups are minority groups, some of them comprised of wayward youths. We let absolutely no one—let this be quite clear in everyone's mind—continue to disrupt public order and put the citizenry in a state of uncertainty or affect commercial activities by closing down streets. In fact, today they tried to destroy the structures in Porras Square, where a voluminous welcome will be given by the Panamanian people to our friend, the honorable President of the United States of America. Perhaps therein lies the young people's problem. Perhaps they miss the absence of democracy. They suffer the disillusion of seeing their chief imprisoned in a Miami jail, which was decreed by the courts. They would like to see him back in Panama—that is the problem. They miss the dictatorship, where they proliferated against the will of a nation, which rose in a civilized way against that dictatorship.

I want to recall certain things because the Panamanians are prone to forget things quickly. When Torrijos, the dictator, invited President Carter to Panama because he wanted the Torrijos-Carter Treaties approved at all costs, all the television stations, all the radio stations, and all the newspapers joined a network that lasted 10 consecutive days so there would not be a single dissident

voice in the country. That is forgotten by those who go out to protest and say there are no guarantees here. Let us remember that. I want to remind those who have gathered at the university that the dictatorship that planned Carter's visit also attacked the university and caused two deaths among the university students. Apparently some students have forgotten that.

I want to tell you that President Endara's government will not allow disorderliness in the country. We will respect every person's rights—but we will demand that everyone respect other people's rights—and we will enforce the law, in the strictest way possible, against those who take part in disorderliness and demonstrate in an uncivilized way. I would like to use this occasion to issue an invitation, although the Panamanian people know it and they want to welcome President Bush—I want to invite all the people to go out on 10 June and participate in the events welcoming President Bush. The Panamanian people really have nothing against President Bush. The majority of Panamanians do not support those street troublemakers. I invite the people to go out on the streets and give these troublemakers a slap in the face because they are only interested in undermining Panama's prestige abroad so the country does not continue to achieve its development and growth, because they only prosper in poverty and resentment. I want to tell you the government will fully protect all those who go out with President Endara to meet, greet, and welcome the U.S. President.

Let this be quite clear. We will not allow disorderliness and we will strictly enforce whatever measures are necessary. I again invite you to participate in a democratic event to welcome President Bush. Thank you and good night.

City Mayor Issues Communique on Bush Visit

PA1006190792 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 10 Jun 92 p 26a

[Communique issued by Panama City Mayor Mayin Correa in Panama City on 9 June]

[Text]

Communique from the Panama City Mayor's Office

Owing to U.S. President George Bush's visit to Panama City, the Panama City Mayor's Office states that it will respect the right of citizens to hold dissident demonstrations provided that they comply with Article 38 of the Constitution, which reads:

"Article 38: The inhabitants of the Republic have the right to meet peacefully and without weapons for legal purposes. The open air demonstrations or meetings do not require permits and only require that local administrative authorities be advised 24 hours prior to the event.

"Authorities can implement police security measures to prevent or repress abuses in the exercise of that right when it causes or could cause traffic disturbances, public order disturbances, or violations of the rights of third parties." [Signed] Mayin Correa, Panama City Mayor [Issued] Panama City, 9 June 1992

U.S. Soldiers Shot; 1 Dead, 1 Wounded

PA1006173192 Panama City Telemetro Television Network in Spanish 1720 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Student protests are taking place currently, a few hours before President George Bush's visit to our country. The Telemetro Reporta newscast is in a position to announce that on the morning of 10 June there was an attack in the area of Chilibre, when unidentified individuals riding a Toyota vehicle fired at a Hummer jeep, killing a U.S. soldier and wounding another.

Please stay tuned. We will keep you informed.

Police Chief on Attack

PA1006182592 Panama City Telemetro Television Network in Spanish 1730 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Providing more details on the attack in Chilibre on the morning of 10 June, when unidentified individuals fired at a U.S. military vehicle in which two U.S. soldiers were traveling, we have Major Milton Castillo, the Colon police chief, on the line.

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr. Castillo, could you explain the incidents?

[Castillo] As for the incidents on the Transisthmian Highway, we can tell you that passengers of a black and gray Toyota Starlet vehicle fired at a U.S. military vehicle. As a result of the attack, the U.S. vehicle was thrown off the road and a person was killed from the bullet wounds.

[Reporter] What can you tell us about the other U.S. soldier riding in the military vehicle?

[Castillo] What other vehicle?

[Reporter] It is being reported that two persons were riding in the military vehicle.

[Castillo] The other person is wounded, according to the information the police have.

[Reporter] Is the attack connected with the attack the other day at the gate?

[Castillo] Investigations conducted by the Attorney General's Office and the authorities should shed some light on that at the proper time. We will be awaiting any developments.

[Reporter] Is there any coincidence concerning the weapons or the method that were used?

[Castillo] I repeat: I do not have the information on which to judge the attack at the Albrook gate or the

incident here on Transisthmian Highway, so I cannot compare the two incidents and say if there is any coicidence.

[Reporter] Have you contacted the residents of Chilibre who were close to the incident?

[Castillo] We had difficulties communicating because we have been in a difficult area, where our radio equipment is experiencing problems.

[Reporter] What were the U.S. soldiers doing in the area?

[Castillo] Remember it is an area of traffic between the defense sites on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. That is the best way we can explain it. U.S. vehicles drive through there almost every day.

Police Communique

PA1106011892 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] A communique issued by the National Police reported that three armed men opened fire, presumably with AK-47 assault rifles, against a U.S. Southern Command Hummer, killing one of the soldiers and injuring the other. The attack took place near the Customs Department roadblock in Chilibre.

The soldier who was killed was Owel Hernandez Saca and the injured soldier is Ronald Marshall. According to a communique, 12- year-old Oriel Antonio Garibaldi, who was walking nearby when the shots were fired, was wounded by a bullet.

The police communique adds that witnesses stated that the three armed men left in a gray and black Toyota Starlet vehicle, with a license plate number that could possibly be 8-769.

Regarding that, the Panamanian Radio Broadcasting Corporation makes the following clarification:

1. The aforementioned license plate number, 8-769, belongs to a Yugo vehicle assigned to the RPC Television news department.

2. The license plate number, 8-769, is in place on the blue Yugo, which was not involved in this attack.

3. The affair has already been duly ccordinated with members of the Police Investigation Department.

Second Soldier Dies

PA1106144192 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1341 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] Panama City, 11 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Panama Police Major Dario Arrue reported on 11 June that U.S. soldier Ronald Marshall, seriously wounded in the 10 June attack in which fellow soldier Owell Hernandez Zacka was killed, has died in the last few hours.

In remarks to Circuito RPC Radio, Arrue confirmed the death of the second U.S. soldier after the 10 June attack by three unidentified individuals near Chilibre, 50 km north of Panama City.

U.S. sources consulted by ACAN-EFE said they had no information about Marshall's death, and that those responsible for providing such information are busy with U.S. President George Bush's arrival.

Students Bush Visit Protest, Violence Reported

Soldiers' Car Burned

PA1006190092 Panama City Telemetro Television Network in Spanish 1730 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Excerpt] A few hours before President George Bush's official visit to Panama, students have continued to stage protests. The students are blocking several streets in Panama City.

This morning in the area of the University of Panama, students burned a car in which two U.S. soldiers were traveling. The soldiers had to flee the car in view of the angry crowd around them. [passage omitted]

Protest Bush Arrival

PA1006204292 Panama City Radio KW Continente in Spanish 2015 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Report by Roberto Rolando Rodriguez]

[Text] Radio KW Continente listeners: Jose Remon Cantera High School students are currently protesting here on Via Israel. They have begun blocking roads to protest U.S. President George Bush's arrival in Panama City, scheduled for 1000 on 11 June. Students are practically in control of the avenue and vehicles are being turned back, resulting in a huge traffic jam in the vicinity of 50th Street and Via Israel, which leads to Balboa Avenue. That is all the information we have right now.

We repeat: Students from Jose Remon Cantera High School have taken to the streets. They are angrily turning back vehicles that try to break their roadblocks. Rocks are being thrown and the police have not yet arrived, but are in contact with their superiors. That is all we can report now.

We repeat: Students from the Jose Remon Cantera High School are in control of Via Israel and are preventing vehicles from passing. There is a huge traffic jam in the vicinity.

High Schools To Close

PA1006194192 Panama City Radio Exitosa in Spanish 1903 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Telephone report by Joaquin Maizon, information minister at the Education Ministry in Panama City—live]

[Text] Radio Exitosa friends: The Education Ministry issued a communique on 10 June reporting the following to public and private school authorities, teachers, students, and parents in the districts of Panama, San Miguelito, and Colon and its surrounding areas:

Elementary schools in these areas—Panama, San Miguelito, Colon and its surrounding areas—will have classes until 1000 on 11 June.

The Education Ministry also reports that high schools in the districts of Panama, San Miguelito, and Colon and its surrounding areas will not operate at all on 11 June.

We repeat. There will be no classes at high schools in the districts of Panama, San Miguelito, and Colon and its surrounding areas on 11 June. Elementary grade schools in the same areas will only have classes until 1000.

We report that classes in the areas will resume on 12 June.

Police Clash With Workers, Casualty Leaders

PA1006234992 Panama City Radio KW Continente in Spanish 2317 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Report by Homero Londono]

[Text] Clashes are taking place between the Public Force riot police and workers from labor unions, construction workers, and leaders of the Association of Relatives of Invasion Casualties led by Mrs. Isabel Corro. I am stationed at the emergency room at the Santo Tomas Hospital and the odor of the tear gas is preventing us from breathing or seeing.

I must also report that four minors were brought to the emergency room. They say they were playing basketball at Urraca Park and were arrested by members of the Public Force. Also, Public Force members in a patrol car ran over a National Institute student. The youth had refused to disclose his name to avoid problems. Meanwhile, Pedro Perea, an economy student at the University of Panama, and Carlos Rivera have been arrested by Public Force members.

Police Detect 19 Drug Gangs Operating in Country

PA1006200392 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 8 Jun 92 p A-1

[Article by James Aparicio]

[Text] Some 19 criminal gangs in charge of drugs shipped to the United States and Europe and who carry out assaults on houses, banks, and stores have been detected in the country, according to Carlos Landero, deputy director of the Judicial Technical Police (PTJ).

Landero told LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA that local criminal gangs have "close links" with international drug-trafficking organizations, especially with the Colombian cartels.

"The gangs operate in specific areas and have specific duties to perform," said Landero. He added that leaders and members of those groups have already been identified in Santa Cruz, Curundu, Panama Viejo, El Chorrillo, and San Miguelito, where criminal gangs are operating.

Seven criminal gangs operating in Colon and "a well-organized group of auto thieves who sell stolen vehicles in Central America" were detected in Chiriqui Province, Landero said.

Landero added that some gang leaders are known by the nicknames Checa Valdespino (in Barraza neighborhood), Tello (San Joaquin neighborhood), Polito (Panama Viejo neighborhood), and Tito Maldad, who is the chief of a criminal youth organization that has been robbing stores.

Landero said the groups participated in most of the 182 murders that took place in 1990; the 166 that occurred in 1991; and the 67 so far this year.

"Many of the criminal gangs provide protection and transportation service and are paid in cash and cocaine, which they sell on the local market," Landero explained.

Landero said the criminal gangs operate like guerrilla groups with cells and pseudonyms, which allows them to replace any member who is caught by the PTJ.

Argentina

Russian Military Know-How 'for Peaceful Purposes'

PY1006152792 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1346 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Jun (EFE)—Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy has said that his country will transfer know-how of the former Soviet military industrial complex to Argentina so this country may "use it for peaceful purposes."

In statements to Buenos Aires radio stations, Rutskoy said that the transfer of Soviet knowledge is part of several cooperation agreements that Argentine President Carlos Menem and his Russian counterpart Boris Yeltsin will sign in Moscow in approximately two months.

He explained that the agreements provide for the exchange of technology, investment guarantees, and the elimination of double taxation on trade between Argentina and Russia.

Rutskoy met with Menem on 9 June to analyze measures for promoting exchanges between the two countries.

A group of Argentine and Russian experts will study the agreements that Argentina signed with the former USSR, which owed large debts to Argentina.

Rutskoy said that the work by the experts "will multiply by 10" current Argentine-Russian trade.

Today the Russian vice president will travel to Cordoba Province, 800 km northwest of Buenos Aires, to visit an agricultural and industrial complex "that could be a model for construction of a similar complex in Russia."

After staying for two days in Argentina, Rutskoy will return to his country on 11 June.

Thatcher Upcoming Falklands' Visit Downplayed

PY1006193192 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1533 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Jun (NA)—Defense Minister Antonio Erman Gonzalez stated today that the coming visit by former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to the Malvinas Islands "is no obstacle for negotiations, which are progressing positively" with the United Kingdom.

Gonzalez said that Argentina is not interested in "preventing or exalting" the trip that Thatcher will make to the southern islands, where she will be honored by the Kelper population on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the British victory in the armed confrontation between the two nations.

The minister made these remarks at the end of a ceremony held at the joint general staff headquarters on the occasion to commemorate the day of reaffirmation of the Argentine rights over the Malvinas and South Atlantic Islands.

The defense minister also noted that the Condor-2 "is not a missile," and that this project has been dismantled by presidential decree. He admitted, however, that "the technology can be recycled," and that talks are being held with the Spanish Aerospace Institute with that objective, to jointly carry out a project to put a satellite into orbit.

Moreover, Army Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Martin Balza stated that the Army supports the government decision to try to recover sovereignty over the islands via diplomatic channels.

"Our authorities have sufficiently reaffirmed the decision to try to recover the usurped Malvinas Islands through diplomatic channels," and the Army "certainly supports this position," he said.

Balza made these remarks when reading a message during a ceremony held at Libertador building, site of the Army staff.

* Cavallo's Response to Political Rivals Analyzed

92SM0417B Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 3 May 92 p 9

[Report by Sergio Crivelli: "Cavallo's Missiles"]

[Text] The latest confrontations within the Peronist government enable one to draw a map of power showing three very well-defined groups: one made up of Cavallo and his aides and having the active support of Jose Luis Manzano; one comprised of the president's friends, a few of whom move within the power structure (Erman Gonzalez, Maria Julia Alsogaray), while others move outside it (Vicco, Emir Yoma, Jorge Antonio); and the so-called "three Eduardos": Bauza, Menem, and Duhalde.

Two of these three groups are now involved in an all-out battle (Cavallo vs. the president's friends), while the third observes without intervening. The men closest to the chief of state enjoy his support, which is often expressed publicly, but it is the economic team that launches the most powerful missiles.

The most recent attacks on Cavallo targeted three of his aides: Roque Fernandez, Felipe Murolo, and Edumundo del Valle Soria. The latter is the transportation secretary who engaged in a controversy with Alberto Albamonte on television, but the origins of their dispute go back to late last year, or more specifically, to the weeks following the gubernatorial elections won by Peronists as a result of the success of the stability plan. From then on, the minister of economy's influence began to grow visibly within the Menem administration, clashing with that of other Cabinet members.

His most memorable encounters were with Erman Gonzalez, who was forced to beat a rapid retreat more than once, first over the communications network for the Armed Forces, which also caused a row with top Army officials, and later over Ezeiza's tax payments. In the latter case, Cavallo was identified with the American Embassy, which wanted to break up the Edcadassa [South Atlantic Air Cargo Enterprise, Inc.] monopoly so tenaciously defended by Erman. The response to this defense was a heavy caliber "missile": The U.S. Transportation Department came to the surprising conclusion that Argentine airports were not safe due to commotion around the beaches.

Nor was that the end of it. A few weeks later, Erman, who was not at all anxious to clash with Cavallo again, asked Miguel Angel Vicco to mediate with the president for an Armed Forces increase on which the Ministry of Economy was dragging its feet. It is a notoriously well-known fact that the former private secretary still retains much of his influence over the president. As if to corroborate that reputation, the increase was granted. In this case, the response was nearly apocalyptic: the "leak" of the Central Bank file showing the former secretary's unpaid debt.

Rejoinder From the "Friends"

The match continued with the intervention of Menem himself, who, after first defending Vicco, ordered the publication of all lists of debtors. The move had a double purpose: to weaken Vicco's exposure and ascertain whether the lists also contained names linked with the economic team. Fernandez, president of the BCRA [Central Bank of the Argentine Republic], threatened to postpone publication of the lists and nearly lost his job.

It was at this precise point in time that there appeared on the scene two "friends" who had recently maintained a very low profile: gastronome Luis Barrionuevo and Jorge Antonio. The former loudly asked why the lists did not contain the names of certain Cordoban banks, a thinly veiled reference to the liquidated Construction Bank of Cordoba, one of whose owners was none other than Cavallo himself. For his part, Jorge Antonio suggested on the radio that Manzano and the minister of economy might be responsible for leaking Vicco's debts. He also hinted that Vicco and Cavallo were pitted against one another over a deal with the Italian Bank in which they represented different and very specific interests. The message was clear: Not only do the "friends" appear to be involved in deals, but the economic team's "Mormons," those who have a highly positive, professional image with public opinion, might be vulnerable.

In other words, it was an attempt to drag Cavallo into the mud of infighting from which he had tried to keep his distance.

How did the president react to these shots from the two sectors? As an observer. The "friends" believe that Cavallo's shots at Vicco, Erman, and Maria Julia are actually aimed at Menem. At the same time, it is very difficult to conceive of economic stability if the minister does not stay on in his post. The government has developed what in the jargon of the Casa Rosada [executive mansion] is called "Cavallo-dependency." Cavallo is so conscious of this that his entourage has coined the phrase "Menemism without Menem" to express the continuity of the current political course with greater flexibility and without the president, in case constitutional reform is not achieved.

So much for the framework for the controversy between the minister of economy and Alberto Albamonte. The UCD [Democratic Center Union] deputy had plunged into a campaign to oust Edmundo del Valle Soria, and Cavallo responded by coming out to demonstrate the power of his artillery, undoubtedly the most powerful in the government's arsenal. Furthermore, Albamonte combined all the conditions for an enticing target: Not only was he attacking a member of his team, but he was also an enemy of Manzano and an assiduous visitor to the Office of Secretary of the Environment, whose occupant, Maria Julia Alsogaray, is involved in open confrontation with Cavallo. The closeness of Albamonte and Maria Julia also caused Adelina de Viola, a member of the Cavallo-Manzano coalition, to ask the party for the UCD deputy's head.

On the fringe of all these skirmishes is the group of the "three Eduardos," which now constitutes the president's only reliable political support. They occasionally intervene on behalf of one of the adversaries or another, but always at a safe distance from the trenches! And yet there are marked sympathies and antipathies: Eduardo Menem no longer gets along with Manzano, and no one can imagine how they will ever get along beginning the Monday the senator is ensconced alongside the minister in the Casa Rosada, substituting for his brother, who is now traveling in the Middle East.

Porto Not Setting Sail

While Cavallo is stronger and gaining ground in the government by the day, he may have been guilty of overconfidence Tuesday when he publicly threw his support to Avelino Porto, whose candidacy no one in government wants to back. Menem wanted no part of the campaign because he could not get enthusiastic over the idea of getting "stuck" with what for the time being appears to be an inevitable defeat. However, Cavallo resolved to support the Peronist-Liberal-Conservative candidate. In addition to the political gesture, the Porto committee hoped the minister's presence would ensure the flow of funds into the campaign, a factor fast becoming a problem for the rector of the UB [expansion not given].

Beyond purely monetary considerations, it is obvious that Porto does not rouse the support of traditional Peronist voters. Things do not look good for him in Mataderos or Lugano. Aldo Rico's advisers show a poll attributed to Edgardo Catterberg, an adviser linked to Radicalism, indicating that, while among the upper and

middle classes De la Rua and Porto gather 50 and 15 percent of the votes, respectively, among lower classes the figures are 40 percent for De la Rua and 14 for Porto. Here, Modin [Dignity and Independence Movement] would get 30 percent of the votes, meaning a clear transfer of votes from the PJ [Justicialist Party] to Rico's candidate.

Whether or not this poll is substantiated, it is a fact that the Casa Rosada is already trying to see on whom they can hang Porto's possible defeat. His mentor, it will be recalled, was Jose Luis Manzano, but Carlos Grosso seems recently to have demonstrated sufficient cause to shoulder the blame for a large share of any future blunders.

* UCR Leaders Denounce Government Corruption

92SM0417A Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 15 May 92 p 11

[Text] In a sharply critical document, top officials of the UCR [Radical Civic Union] condemned a "rarefaction of the moral climate in the country" due to the numerous illegal acts reported, adding that "the government has made no observable effort to purge the administration of officials involved in corruption." The pronouncement is signed by all members of the national leadership and district heads from all over the country.

The national Radical leadership yesterday expressed its concern with the "rarefaction of the moral climate in the country" caused by a series of reports of illegal acts, claiming that "the government has made no observable effort to purge the administration of officials involved in corruption."

In response to this situation, it reiterated its commitment to exhaust all political and legislative means within its reach "to prevent the spread of corruption and social inequity from undermining the foundations of democratic life" in the country.

The document, perhaps the harshest in content since the new Radical leadership headed by missionary Mario Losada took office, is not only signed by all members of the National Committee, which has a a balanced representation of sectors and is headed by Raul Alfonsin, Eduardo Angeloz, and Fernando de la Rua, but also by all the district presidents from throughout the country, who had been called together to analyze the national situation.

"Not one was missing," was the astonished observation of board secretary Mario Megri, admitting he never expected such a response to the summons.

Titled "The Moral Crisis: Responsibility of the Government," the statement by the main opposition party added its concern, not only over the issue of corruption, but over "growing social inequity" as well, blaming it on "the lack of clear responses to irregular situations created by government officials or persons close to the government, whose conduct and easy enrichment are an affront to the citizenry as a whole."

Contrasts

The UCR notes that "the sacrifices and poverty in which most citizens are forced to live" are in sharp contrast with the opportunities "groups from outside the Argentine community" have found in the country in recent years "for developing illegal activities, and the accelerated process of economic concentration in a few hands favored by official policy."

In order to draw a contrast between the two situations, it states that while small national and foreign economic groups "receive the benefits of all businesses opened at the cost of surrendering our national patrimony, Argentina is experiencing a drastic process of deindustrialization and a loss of foreign markets." The statement also describes the situation in the provinces, noting that "there is an exodus of the population from the interior due to a crisis in the regional economies."

It maintains that the UCR has repeatedly condemned the abandonment of social policies in the country and emphasizes that combined with the government's abandonment of its responsibilities is "a policy of inaction or official permissiveness vis-a-vis the conduct of officials or organizations involved in activities at odds with the law and the national interest."

The statement emphasizes that despite declarations by President Carlos Menem himself and efforts by the opposition and public opinion, "the government has made no observable effort to purge the administration of officials involved in corruption."

Colombia

British Prime Minister Arrives, Comments

PA1006151292 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 2300 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] British Prime Minister John Major's arrival in Colombia clearly signifies that our country is an excellent place to invest. In earlier conversations, Prime Minister Major and President Gaviria discussed mutual relations and the enormous possibilities for bilateral trade.

Trade relations between Colombia and Great Britain have been further strengthened by Prime Minister Major's arrival in Cartagena. President Gaviria welcomed him in the hope that the meeting that began on 9 June in the capital of Bolivar will enable Colombia to establish bilateral trade, to adopt measures to promote private British investment in Colombia, and to establish cooperation between the two nations in the struggle against drug trafficking.

[Begin recording] [Gaviria] I hope Prime Minister Major's visit will be extremely productive. British investment in Colombia is extremely important.

[Unidentified reporter, in English] Prime Minister, how do you feel about your visit to our country?

[Major, in English] I am very pleased to be back in Colombia. It has been eight years since I have been here. I very much want to meet with the president. We have many things [words indistinct]. [end recording]

The prime minister was transported in a helicopter from the Rafael Nunez Airport to the residence for distinguished guests. On the evening of 9 June a cooperation agreement will be signed by the two nations.

Major's return to Cartagena, Colombia has been on his agenda since over 10 years ago, when he visited the city as a tourist. Now, laden with official papers, we expect him to draw Colombia and her products closer to the EC.

Major, Gaviria Sign Communique

PA1106022692 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 2300 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Report by Raul Gutierrez]

[Text] English punctuality does not work in Colombia. The 10 June program prepared for British Prime Minister John Major's visit to our country started late and had to be shortened. The prime minister inspected the oil at the Cusiana 2 oil fields and signed a joint declaration of goodwill with President Gaviria.

Major's delay following his visit to Cusiana 2 was due to bad weather. There were rumors the helicopter transporting him and President Gaviria was missing. The rumors proved false, but the repercussions were felt on the London stock market.

Cusiana 2 is, for the English, the most important oil discovery in 25 years. The most sophisticated technology has been used by the British Petroleum Company. Major inspected the quality of the crude oil because there are doubts the oil operations will prove to be profitable. Furthermore, there is the ecological damage issue.

Gaviria and Major discussed the issue and they received, as was expected, information indicating that the waste damaging our environment will not end up in Casanare Department's rivers.

English journalists, who usually say so many bad things about Colombia, interviewed Gaviria, who had no qualms about answering in English—with a Quimbaya accent.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified English reporter, in English] There is a certain amount of concern about the activities of the Army of National Liberation in the zone. How serious is the security?

[Gaviria, in English] It may bother the company, but we are sure they can work well with the precautions we can take and with the cooperation of Armed Forces of Colombia so the company can develop all its activities—as many companies which operate in this country. [end recording]

Major and Gaviria signed a joint communique briefly referring to the political situation in Latin America, including the drug trafficking issue and concludes by indicating the two countries will examine the feasibility of sponsoring trade relations. Major pledged to encourage economic support to our country's struggle against drug trafficking. Programs costing 20 million pounds sterling are currently being implemented.

The possibility of free trade and a return to democracy in Latin America interests the UK, Major said. Reminded about the dispute with Argentina over the Malvinas Islands, Major unhesitantly said nothing will change there.

[Begin Major recording, in English] On that point there is no change in the relationship. The Falkland Islands [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Terrorists Bomb Spanish Consulate in Barranquilla

PA1006171792 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1630 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Report by Margarita Zepeda]

[Text] We have a last minute report. A terrorist attack has just taken place in the city of Barranquilla. A few minutes ago a dynamite charge blew up at the Spanish Consulate, destroying the entire installation. We are now watching how the files at the consul's offices were destroyed, as was the rest of the infrastructure.

It is currently unknown who is responsible for this violent incident in Barranquilla. This is the sixth bomb that has blown up in less than 20 days in this city.

Group Claims Responsibility

PA1106010892 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 2305 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Report by Jorge Curat from Barranquilla]

[Text] A medium-sized bomb exploded on 10 June at the Spanish Consulate in Barranquilla. The explosion caused no deaths, but it partially destroyed the facilities. The Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia Jose Antequera Front has claimed responsibility for the attack. The terrorist attack on the Spanish consulate, perpetrated at noon, caused damage in excess of 5 million pesos.

[Begin employee Carlos Barrios recording] It was a big explosion. It was a long boom, too long. It hurt our ears. When I walked in here it was a disaster. [end recording]

Two offices were damaged by the 2 kg bomb left by terrorists. The authorities and the diplomatic representation could not determine who was responsible for the attack. It was learned a young man came to request some Spanish documents 15 minutes before the explosion. It is believed he brought the device.

One person was injured by the explosion: Miriam de Rodriguez, the consul's secretary, who sustained face injuries.

ELN Declares 'Total War' Against Government

PA1006181492 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1707 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Santa Fe de Bogota, 10 Jun (EFE)—The guerrilla Army of National Liberation (ELN) of Colombia announced a "total war" against the government's economic policy and threatened to attack national institutions, multinational corporations, and the media.

The threats, announced by Colombian media on 10 June, were made by the ELN delegates to the peace talks between the Colombian Government and the Simon Bolivar Guerrilla Coordinator Board (CNGSB) in La Trinidad, Mexico. The CNGSB is formed by the ELN and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC).

ELN rebel spokesperson Luis Carlos Guerrero transmitted the two messages from Mexico, announcing it will fight the economic opening and privatization policy promoted by the Colombian Government, as well as the state institutions and foreign firms that participate in the programs.

The guerrilla group added that the recent attack on communication towers in Antioquia, which had "negatively affected the interests" of the "Caracol" radio network, had been a "warning" for the Bogota "El TIEMPO" newspaper, which the ELN blames for "manipulation, partiality, and hiding the truth."

Guerrero asked for "a national debate on information." However, he said the ELN's plans do not include attacking the newspaper offices, radio stations, journalists, or media employees.

The rebel communiques condemned the "persecution" of the leftist media, including seizures, the murder of distributors, and the bombing of and interruption of the operations of a clandestine station.

Media sources stated that the ELN communiques—which were signed by its leader, the former Spanish priest Manuel Perez, aka "Poliarco," and Nicolas Rodriguez, "Gabino"—indicate that there are internal differences within the CGSB because the FARC had spoken out against pressuring the media 15 days ago.

On 2 May, the CGSB requested that the peace talks, which started a year ago in Venezuela and are continuing in Mexico, be suspended indefinitely. The CGSB also began to increase its military actions in Colombia.

Dynamites Pipelines

PA1006193992 Paris AFP in Spanish 1831 GMT 10 June 92

[Text] Bogota, 10 Jun (AFP)—Taking advantage of British Prime Minister John Major's visit to Colombia, the leftist guerrillas dynamited two Colombian oil pipelines on 10 June, paralyzing oil exports, a spokesman for the state-owned Colombian Petroleum Enterprise [Ecopetrol] has reported.

Guerrillas of the Army of National Liberation (Guevarist ELN) carried out 10 attacks against the oil infrastructure in the past 72 hours. The attacks have been in various areas of the country, especially in the eastern plain area, near the Venezuelan border, and on the north Atlantic coast.

Ecopetrol spokesmen said the two attacks occurred while Major was visiting the Buenos Aires II well, in the Cusiana fields, Casanare Department (northeast). Colombian President Cesar Gaviria was present.

The ELN, which is headed by Spanish Priest Manuel Perez, is the second most important subversive organization in Colombia. It emerged in the mid-1960's to demand the nationalization of the oil industry, arguing that Colombian crude benefits foreigners.

On 9 June, the rebel group declared war on the Gaviria administration and threatened to carry out dynamite attacks against various media facilities and multinational companies operating in Colombia. The government rejected the threats and described them as ridiculous.

The Cusiana field is being explored and exploited by British Petroleum and it is believe to hold at least 1 billion barrels of high quality crude. Other estimates suggest that in its first year of production the Buenos Aires II well will produce between 25,000 and 30,000 barrels per day and between 180,000 and 200,000 barrels per day at its highest point. Ten more wells will be drilled in the next few years in the same area.

The first attack on 10 June occurred in Barrancabermeja, 300 km north of Bogota, where the terrorists blew up a stretch of the pipeline that carries crude to the refinery from the fields in El Centro.

The second attack occurred near Pailitas Municipality, Cesar Department, to the north, affecting the Cano Limon-Covenas pipeline, which is the country's most important with a length of 584 km. In this last attack some 5,000 barrels of oil were spilt, forcing Ecopetrol to suspend pumping operations until the damage, which was described as serious, is repaired.

Officials Comment

PA1106010492 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 2302 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Report by Diego Hernan Cabal]

[Text] The guerrilla groups have changed their war strategy. A communique was issued by the Army of National Liberation [ELN] announcing it will now attack multinationals and the government's privatization policy. Likewise, it announced a campaign against the media which, according to the guerrilla group, are misinterpreting the truth. The possibility of returning to the negotiation table seems more remote with the threats and the increase in terrorist actions.

The guerrilla groups new style is terrorism. They began with an attack on the oil pipeline and now their actions have been extended to the cities. Bombs reportedly aimed at military targets have caused civilian casualties. The children in El Carmen de Chucuri are an example. Two minors were injured by a mine that exploded when an Army truck passed by. Such actions are now also aimed at the media. Nevertheless, the guerrilla groups feel the actions are a natural result of the war they have decided to wage against Colombia.

[Begin guerrilla spokesman Alfonso Cano recording] The military actions carried out in the cities are part of the overall confrontation prevailing in Colombia. There are some specific actions, like attacks on communication towers. A communique will be issued on 10 or 11 June by the ELN's Camilista Union explaining that their radio station has been the target of attacks and jamming; and they want to state their rejection of the policy aimed at preventing them from expressing their views to the country. [end recording]

That position not only makes it more difficult for the government to decide if it will return to the talks in Tlaxcala; it also creates another obstacle that precludes a consensus in the negotiations.

[Begin recording] [Senator Bernardo Gutierrez] The Guerrilla Coordinating Board [CG] has a stubborn attitude. I think it is totally wrong and it does not reflect their willingness to join the Colombian people in the country's reconstruction. I think the CG should assume that role.

[Peace Adviser Horacio Serpa] It is wrong to think the government will be influenced by violent actions. The government would not participate under such conditions, because it would be an illegal dialogue. It would be a dialogue in which one of the parties would be negatively affected.

[Alfonso Cano] The confrontation will continue as long as there are no agreements, as long as there are no pacts, as long as no joint agreements are adopted. [end recording]

These statements and violent actions have made the separation between the government's and the guerrilla groups' position on the dialogue process even greater. Peace has simply become an impossible dream everyone talks about, but which is impossible to achieve at this point in the war.

Telecom Says Government Fails To Keep Agreement

PA1006165792 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 2300 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Telecom [Colombian Telecommunications Enterprise] communications were partially suspended in Colombia on 9 June. National and international calls, which are made via the 01 and 09 lines, and information services were not operating for several hours.

Telecom's labor conflict with the government has still not been resolved, thus Colombia's communication system continues to be threatened. The Telecom workers union held information meetings throughout the country for two hours on 9 June. During that time, Colombians were unable to make operator-assisted calls.

The conflict was sparked when, according to union members, the government promised not to privatize Telecom and then failed to keep the agreement.

[Begin Telecom Union Leader Ever Lopez recording] This government has not changed the bill regarding the sale of Telecom. It penalized workers after the agreement was signed, and the disciplinary cases pending when the agreement was signed have not been resolved.[end recording]

Telecom management says the union is attempting to radicalize positions because, truthfully, the agreement has not been neglected, and no attempts have been made to sell Telecom.

[Begin unidentified Telecom official recording] I do not think the union can certify or provide evidence that we have not kept the agreement. More than likely we still have some people with a bellicose attitude in the union. They are trying to repeat a lie a hundred times in an attempt to make people believe it is true. [end recording]

* Coffee Growers Seek To Diversify Operations

92SM0419A Santa Fe de Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 12 May 92 p 3A

[Text] The National Federation of Coffee Growers of Colombia, which comprises the 350,000 families devoted to growing the best coffee in the world, is seeking members, but with one condition: that they not grow coffee!

This does not mean that they are going to stop growing the country's most important crop, but that they have decided to utilize the as yet unexploited potential of the coffee growers and their lands to create new enterprises and to generate wealth for all.

As a result, they are interested in listening to any proposals that national or international businessmen wish to make about starting new industrial, agro-industrial, agricultural, or cattle-raising projects or services or, in general, any projects that would encourage entrepreneurial initiative.

"This really involves a diversification plan for the growers, but more than crop diversification, it is a diversification of income because they must not live on coffee alone", said Ignacio Umana Mallarino, director of the Marketing and Agro-Industrial Division of the Coffee Growers Federation and responsible for managing the diversification program.

"It is prompted by the desire to seek the welfare of the growers and their families, which is the principal mission of the Coffee Growers Federation, but it can also be accomplished by creating new business opportunities for everyone.

"These proposals must be undertaken with businesslike criteria that take into account the reality of the country and meet the challenge of economic opportunity", explained Umana, a 42-year-old engineer from Santa Fe de Bogota, who has always worked in marketing and business promotion.

He also maintained that this is not a utopian program, but was the result of almost 15 months of analysis, during which the diverse social, cultural, ecological, and economic conditions of each of the coffee-growing regions were considered.

Enormous Capital

To begin with, the Coffee Growers Federation offers businessmen the backing of its national and international prestige, its organizational experience, and its knowledge of the country's productive areas.

In addition, it offers them the enormous physical and human potential of its members, the 350,000 Colombian families that produce coffee in 15 departments and that live on almost 4 million hectares, although they grow coffee on only 1 million hectares.

They also place at the disposal of potential members the entire infrastructure of roads, communications, and other facilities that exist there.

"This is undoubtedly a tempting proposal for businessmen who wish to explore new business alternatives", Umana said.

"Without a doubt, the most important factor is the capacity for work of the coffee growers, who are the best peasants in Colombia because they are the real producers of most of the country's income. They are hard-working and honest people who are used to working with processes that are almost industrial and have a clear concept of quality.

"To put it a better way, the departmental coffee-grower committees are hoping that businessmen present them with a flood of ideas. That they go and tell the growers what they need the coffee-growing families to plant, produce, process, store, manage, or distribute for them, as long as the business is legal and is done on equitable terms", he said.

A Thousand Opportunities

The idea is for the businessmen and coffee growers to be partners, but they can also work under contract.

Although the program has just begun, there are already specific examples of how it can work.

In Armenia, for example, a plant was established in January for processing oranges and maracuyas grown in coffee growing zones. The maracuya concentrate is exported, and the orange concentrate is marketed for domestic consumption.

And only a few days ago, when the income diversification program was being explained to the coffee growers in Cauca, a businessman offered to buy all the asparagus they could grow on 1,000 hectares. He will process and export it.

"There are thousands of ideas like these, and they do not have to be agricultural. They only need to be identified and developed so that they can become self-sufficient, stable businesses that are profitable. By that I mean that they produce earnings for the coffee growers and wealth for the country", said Umana.

In other words, the coffee growers want to start new businesses. They are looking for partners and are listening to all kinds of proposals.

Peru

Armed Forces Arrest MRTA Leader Victor Polay

PA1006133992 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] The Armed Forces arrested Victor Polay Campos, leader of the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement [MRTA], on the night of 9 June during an operation in San Borja. Polay was captured along with several members of the MRTA leadership.

Economy Minister Says IDB Freeze Lifted

PA1106035992 Lima Radio Programas del Peru Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Telephone interview with Economy Minister Carlos Bolona by unidentified Radio Programas reporter in Lima—live]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Reporter] Some sectors have demanded to know the status of the disbursements

that are pending with the international financial organization. What about the promises made, and what about the economy minister's endeavors to obtain fresh funds? Mr. Minister, what can you tell us on that subject?

[Bolona] I have good news to disclose. After numerous negotiations, the Inter-American Development Bank [IDB] has lifted the freeze on disbursements. The $21 million disbursement for roads—the first quota of the over $60 million for the building of roads—has been made, and it is already deposited in the National Reserve Bank. It arrived on 8 June. It is now the Transportation Ministry's turn to make use of the funds as soon as possible. What is important here is the message. The IDB has lifted the freeze on a number of disbursements, and this is the first disbursement. Many different sectors had their doubts and were asking: When will the freeze be lifted? Well, the first step has been taken to reopen the door for Peru's reinstatement, which many considered had been blocked.

[Reporter] That news is certainly noteworthy. It means then that the Central Reserve Bank has a $21 million deposit for the transportation sector.

[Bolona] That is correct. We are working very hard to obtain the second quota of the trade loan in several weeks. That would involve $100 million. It would be the second quota of the trade loan. I hope that the freeze can be lifted on the disbursement in a few weeks so that we can have funds available to carry out public works and carry out a number of activities.

[Reporter] With the IDB's move, I believe that the other international financial organizations may follow in its footsteps. What are the possibilities that this will happen?

[Bolona] As far as the international organizations are concerned, the World Bank and IMF cannot make any disbursements until we catch up on our back payments. I believe that by September, with a great effort, we could get the World Bank—through stopgap loans—to pay up our arrears, in order to show a positive cash flow in the World Bank by September-October. We currently owe $900 million to the IDB, the World Bank, and the IMF.

What is important is that the IDB is working with us. It is important to obtain the disbursements as soon as possible, and then we would turn our attention to the $220 million that is still pending. After that, we would try to get the support group to lift the freeze on the credits. The support group includes Japan, with which there is approximately $75 million pending.

[Reporter] Thank you very much, Mr. Minister. Is this a scoop?

[Bolona] That is correct. I appreciate the opportunity to talk with you and share this bit of news that I believe is good and encouraging for the community. I want to say that we are working very hard to reopen the door that many thought was firmly closed.

[Reporter] Thank you very much, Mr. Minister. Good afternoon.

* Presidential Adviser Causes 'Split' in Military

92P40203A

[Editorial Report] Lima CARETAS in Spanish of 11 May on page 78 reproduces the texts ot two handbills distributed in Lima that refer to presidential adviser Vladimiro Montesinos. While the first accuses Montesinos of "treason," the second praises his "service to our beloved country." CARETAS, which is critical of the Fujimori government, claims that these handbills are a "sign that Montesinos has provoked a split in the Armed Forces."

The first is titled "An Act of Treason to the Fatherland" and pictures a black hand. The handbill states: "Peruvian, this is the truth. Fujimori's adviser is a traitor to the fatherland—a servant of narcotrafficking. This black hand is called Vladimiro Montesinos. He is President Fujimori's personal attorney, and he manages the intelligence service. The Army declared him a traitor to the fatherland and condemned him for selling secret information to the CIA and the KGB. He defended the police generals who were accomplices of the 'godfather' [Reynaldo Rodriguez Lopez] and who were released when Fujimori assumed power. Now, 15 days after the coup, Vladimiro Montesinos has transferred his godfather, Reynaldo Rodriguez Lopez, to Cachiche Prison [in Ica], known as the 'sieve,' in order to facilitate his escape. The glorious Peruvian Army has a photo of the traitor Montesinos in each of its barracks with a caption: 'This person will never be able to enter a military site.' Peruvian, this is the truth. Do not allow yourself to be deceived. Defend your fatherland from the black hand."

The second handbill is entitled "Love for the Fatherland," and pictures a white hand. The handbill states: "Peruvian, this is the truth. The white hand belongs to a Peruvian in the service of our beloved country. This white hand is called Vladimiro Montesinos. He is a professional in the service of the fatherland and all Peruvians. The glorious Peruvian Army has never sentenced him. Some men, involved in a partisan policy, were those who dishonored, slandered, and excluded those like Montesinos, who struggle for a better country. Do you know who created the 'black hand' handbill? He is an individual who has a 'C' [not further identified] that betrays him. This wretch left the Army as a thief and a moral incompetent because he misappropriated state funds and manipulated with evil intent any information that came into his hands. Today that coward takes advantage of a sad and defamatory handbill to exude hatred and poison Peruvians with his lies. Our Army is an irreproachable institution that does not lend itself to the little games of politicians, nor of individuals who are immoral or ill-intentioned. Even less will the Army let itself be manipulated by the miserable thief "C," a black hand, who only wishes to create chaos and confusion

among us in order to harm our country and, in that way, favor our terrible enemies: 'Terrrorism and Narcotrafficking.' Do not allow 'C' to deceive you. Peruvian, this is the truth. Do not let yourself be deceived; defend your country from the cowardly 'C' who prepared the 'black hand' handbill."